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A TREATISE OF THE DISEASES Moſt frequent in the WEST-INDIES,

And herein more particularly of thoſe which occur in

BARBADOES.

ROYAL ARMY MEDICAL COLLEGE
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Scribant alij, quibus iſta mens eſt, miracula ex auditu: Ego, quod hiſce oculis, & qualicunque meo judicio percepi, vobis ſpectandum propono. Jacobus Bontius.

LONDON,
Printed for JOHN CLARKE at the *Bible* under the *Royal Exchange*, *Cornhil*. M,DCC,XXVI.

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TO THE

Honourable and Learned

Sir *Hans Sloane*, Bart.

PRESIDENT of the College of Physicians, &c,

SIR,

THE Honour you were pleased to do me in approving and encouraging my Design of writing this *Treatise* when I mentioned it to you, was of too great Weight to suffer me to desist

from an Undertaking, which you had the Goodneſs to think might prove of Service to our *Colonies* in the *Weſt-Indies*.

Had I wanted that Motive to give you the Trouble of this Addreſs, the very *Subject* of the following Sheets is ſuch as muſt naturally prompt me to requeſt your Protection of them. The great Reputation you acquired in thoſe *Iſlands*, when you reſided there, remains warm upon their Minds to this Time, which makes me highly ambitious to uſher in theſe *Ob-*

ſervations upon the *Diſeaſes* there, under Your Patronage.

You have, Sir, with indefatigable Induſtry and as great Accuracy brought to Light an immenſe Number of *Plants* growing in the *Weſt-Indies*, which might otherwiſe have lain concealed in their native Gullies, and ſlept for Ages to come in Obſcurity. From thoſe *Parts* of the *World* you have collected Materials, with which you have enriched *Natural Hiſtory* with one of the moſt curious and moſt magnificent Performances which

has appeared in the whole Province of Literature.

All that I aim at, is to endeavour to conduct *Thoſe*, who are intruſted with the Care of Life and Health, into a more ſafe and direct *Path* than ſome of Them have hitherto purſued. You are ſenſible, Sir, how much an Undertaking of this *Kind* is wanted in our *Plantations*; and I ſhould have been very glad to have found my ſelf prevented in it by a more able Hand.

How

DEDICATION.

How far I may prove unequal to this Attempt, I moſt freely leave others to determine, but I flatter my ſelf that the *Humanity* of the Deſign, and the *Integrity* with which it is executed, may prove a Means to ſoften the Cenſures which its Defects might otherwiſe draw upon it.

If this ſmall *Treatiſe* may be thought worthy a Place in your *Library* (which is unqueſtionably the beſt *Phyſical Library* in the World) I ſhall think it no Diſhonour to be of a lower Claſs in ſuch good Company.

That

DEDICATION.

That you may long live the Ornament of the high Station you ſo worthily poſſeſs is the ſincere Wiſh and Deſire of,

SIR,

Your moſt Obedient

and moſt Humble Servant,

Richard Towne.

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THE

Librum hunc, cui Titulus, *A Treatiſe of the Diſeaſes moſt frequent in the* Weſt-Indies, *and herein more particularly of thoſe which occur in* Barbadoes, dignum cenſemus, qui Typis mandetur.

Hans Sloane, Præſes.
Joan. Hawys,
Tho. Weſt,
Wᵉ. Stukeley,
Geo. Wharton,
} Cenſores.

Comitiis Cenſoriis ex Ædibus Collegii noſtri Dat. 6°. Januarij, 1725.

THE INTRODUCTION.

THAT human Bodies are greatly influenced by the *Climate, Air, Soil, Diet,* &c. of the Places we inhabit, has been long ago judiciously and fully proved by the divine *Hippocrates* in his Book *de Aere, Aquâ & Locis*; and the means by which these Changes are brought about have lately been ingeniously accounted for by Authors who have treated this Subject in a Manner more suitable to the *Laws of Mechanics*.

It is no wonder then that the *Alterations* made in our *Constitutions* should be conformable to the Causes from whence they arise, and consequently that *Diseases*

ſhould be in ſome Places more or leſs frequent than they are in others, and attended with Symptoms as different as the *Qualities* of the *Countries* where they are produced. This Variety in the Degrees of *Violence*, and Diverſity of *Types*, by which Diſtempers are diſtinguiſhed from each other, muſt neceſſarily require the peculiar Attention of the Phyſician in his Management of them *, and therefore no one *Methodus Medendi* can be framed ſo general and abſolute as to tally with every *Climate*.

Theſe Conſiderations have prevailed upon ſeveral learned Phyſicians to employ their Pens upon ſuch Diſeaſes, as are *endemic* or *popular*, in thoſe Places

* Hæc enim præcipuè quidem omnia, aut certè plurima probè qui agnoverit, cum ad urbem ſibi ignotam pervenerit, eum neque morbi regioni familiares, neque communium quæ ſit natura latêre poterit, ut neque in eorum curatione hæſitare aut aberrare poterit. Quæ certè contingere ſolent, ſi quis iſtorum cognitionem non ante animo perceptam habuerit. *Hippoc. de Aere, Aq.* &c.

where

where their Practice afforded them the greateſt Opportunity for *Obſervation*. Thus *Proſper Alpinus* has wrote *de Medicinâ Ægyptiorum*, *Gulielmus Piſo de Medicina Indiæ Occidentalis*, *Jacobus Bontius Hiſtoria Med. Indiæ Orientalis*, and Sir *Hans Sloan* has favoured us with the Hiſtory of ſome Caſes which occurred to him in *Jamaica*.

The Intent of the following Sheets is to lay down in a plain and intelligible manner the genuine and diſtinguiſhing Types of ſuch Diſtempers as are moſt frequent and remarkable in the Iſland of *Barbadoes*, annexing a Method of Cure which I have experienced to be moſt effectual through a Courſe of ſeven Years Practice. I have introduced no more Philoſophy into this Treatiſe than what was neceſſary to explain the Reaſonableneſs of the Practice, and to guide thoſe into a right Application of it, for whoſe Uſe it was principally calculated.

I have known ſome ingenious Practitioners, upon their firſt coming, ſtrangely ſurpriſed at the Novelty of the *Appearances* they have met with, in this *Iſland*, even to ſo great a degree, that they have miſtaken the *Yellowneſs* of the Skin in a Fever of no more than twenty four Hours ſtanding, for a confirmed and inveterate *Jaundice*. Several other Errors are very difficult to be avoided by thoſe who are unacquainted with the *Phænomena of Diſeaſes* in the *Weſt Indies*, which any one may readily apprehend from the enſuing Diſcourſe, when we come to treat of the *Diſeaſes* in particular.

Surely none will be offended to ſee the ſpecifick Marks and Characteriſtics of theſe *Diſtempers* familiarly and faithfully deſcribed; for if our Curioſity receives ſo great a Gratification in contemplating the immenſe Variety Nature has diſplay'd in her inferior Productions,

ons, why ſhould we not in like manner take Pleaſure in purſuing her through that *Rectitude*, or thoſe *Deviations* from it, by which our own Frame is either preſerved or deſtroyed ?

There is one Motive of great Weight with me in this preſent Undertaking, I mean the Aſſiſtance of ſuch *Practitioners* as have been bred up in the *Iſland*, and have never had the Advantage of paſſing thro' a regular Courſe of Studies, or enjoying an Academical Education. It is well known that all other Sciences have their *Prærequiſita*, nor can any one arrive at a Perfection in them, without aſcending to it by ſuch Steps and Degrees as are neceſſary to conduct him thither. Are then the Art of *Healing* and the Knowledge of human Nature ſuch obvious and palpable Acquiſitions, that they are to be expoſed to the Inſults of every Invader? Or are a Releaſe from the Im-

portunities of Pain, a Reſtitution to the Bleſſings of Health, and a Reprieve from the Horrors of the Grave ſo contemptible Undertakings, that they are to be undertaken at all Hazards? A Propoſition of this Kind would be too abſurd to require a ſerious Confutation. If therefore this Treatiſe ſhall prove of any conſiderable *Uſe* and *Inſtruction* to theſe *Gentlemen*, (many of whom have perſonally obliged me) I ſhall feel a Satisfaction much ſuperior to the popular Applauſe which might have been acquired by a more pompous Performance.

It may juſtly be expected that I ſhould ſay ſomething in relation to the Diſeaſes in general, as they are influenced by the *Climate* of *Barbadoes*, before I conclude this *Introduction*.

This *Iſland*, being ſituated in the Latitude of thirteen Degrees and ten Minutes, it cannot fail of being expoſ-

ed

ed to the Warmth of the Sun, in an eminent Manner, which, being pretty near equal and uniform throughout the whole Year, renders it little liable to Variations of Seaſons, in Reſpect of *Heat* and *Cold*. The only Diſtinction then we can make between the *Seaſons* of the Year, is to conſider them as they are either *Hot* and *Dry*, *Hot* and *Moiſt*, *Fair* or *Rainy*. If the *Rains* happen to fall moderately, and at the uſual Time, we may expect that the following dry Months will prove *ſalubrious* and *healthy*. But when they ſucceed a long and intenſe *Drought*, and pour down in an impetuous exceſſive Degree, we are then to apprehend a terrible Invaſion from the whole Tribe of *acute* and *inflammatory Diſeaſes*. It is at this Time they exert their Tyranny, and ſpread their *dire Dominion* with out Remorſe. Hence proceed *Pleuriſies*, *Peripneumonies*, the *Angina*, and *Eryſi-*

pelas: hence *putrid*, *burning*, *malignant Fevers*: hence *Diarrhœas*, *Dyſenteries*, &c. *

If the Weather continue *hot* and *droughty* for a conſiderable ſpace of Time without the Benefit of refreſhing Showers, this State of the *Air* will alſo produce thoſe *Diſeaſes* which are conſequent upon ſuch a Conſtitution. The principal of theſe are *acute Fevers*, but they generally prove of a Kind leſs *malignant* and *deſtructive* than the former, as *Hippocrates* has juſtly obſerved †.

What has been ſaid is conſtantly true in regard to the Diſtempers which moſt *epidemically* reign in thoſe *Seaſons*; but it is to be obſerved, that with reſpect to particular Perſons theſe

* Per aſſiduos imbres morbi magnâ ex parte oriuntur, cum febres, tum alvi fluxiones, putredines, anginæ, &c. *Hippoc. Aph.* xvi. *Lib.* iii.

† Τῶν δὲ κατασασιῶν τὸ ἐνιαυτοῦ, τὸ μὲν ὅλον οἱ αὐχμοὶ τῶν ἐπομβρίων εἰσὶν ὑγιεινότεροι, καὶ ἧσσον θανατώδεις. Hippoc. Aph. xv. Lib. iii.

Viciſ-

Viciſſitudes have a different Effect; for the *wet Weather* agrees beſt with People of a lean bileous Temperament, and the dry *warm Weather* is moſt beneficial to ſuch as are of a *phlegmatic*, *pituitous* and *moiſt* Habit of Body. Thus, as *Piſo* remarks, *Intemperaments* are mended by a moderate Uſe of their Contraries, but it is not ſo with Bodies which are of a due *Temperament* *.

Having ſaid thus much relating to the Diviſion of the *Seaſons*, it will not be improper in the next Place to conſider the general ſtate of the *Air* of *Barbadoes*, on account of its being an *Iſland*. The *Heat* of the *Sun*, acting all the Day long with great Force and Vigour upon the *circumambient Water*, muſt neceſſarily draw up from the Sea great Quantities of *Vapours*; which, when

* Et hæc quidem de intemperamentis quæ moderato contrariorum uſu conſervantur, corrumpuntur a ſimilibus: contrarium verò in temperatis fieri conſuevit. *Gul. Piſo* Pag. xx.

floating

floating and mixt with the *Air*, will unavoidably occaſion a *hot* and *moiſt Atmoſphere*. This is evident from the great Difficulty there is in all the *Caribbee Iſlands* to preſerve their Iron and Steel from Ruſt, their Braſs and Copper from turning green, and their Silver from tarniſhing; all which Mutations are ſeen upon the reſpective Metals, in a Proportion not much ſhort of that which they would have ſuffered by being expoſed to *Bulge-Water*, as the Sailors term it. I ſhall not in this place enter into a Diſquiſition of thoſe occult Mixtures in the *Atmoſphere*, from which Chymiſts and ſome ſorts of Philoſophers deduce a great many amuſing Conſequences, and upon which the Foundation of ſeveral Conjectures about natural Appearances have been built. It is enough to my preſent Purpoſe, to take Notice that this additional *Moiſture*, in Concurrence with the extra-

extraordinary *Heat* of the *Climate*, muſt render the Fibres of the Body more lax, abate the *Vigour* of the Circulation, encreaſe the *Viſcidity* of the Blood, promote *ſenſible*, and diminiſh *inſenſible Perſpiration*.

Hence we may account for the Frequency of *Dropſies*, which before the *Iſland* was rendered leſs moiſt, by clearing it of the too great Quantity of Wood, were ſo endemic, as to be diſtinguiſhed by the Title of the *Country-Diſtemper*. And here I cannot forbear taking Notice how neceſſary it is to avoid the immoderate Uſe of ſtrong ſpirituous *Liquors*, which too often (eſpecially among the lower Sort of *People*) paves the Way to this *Diſeaſe*. For how ſhall it otherwiſe happen, than that *dropſical Diſorders* muſt enſue, when the Body is prediſpoſed for their Production by the natural Conſtitution of the *Air*, and at the ſame time the

Quantity of the Blood is increaſed, and the Solids enervated by *Intemperance* and *Debauchery*.

To this humid State of the *Air* we may likewiſe impute the *Inactivity*, *Paleneſs* of Complexion, and *œdematous Swellings*, which are ſo frequently to be met with here.

There remains yet another Effect to be conſidered from this vaſt Quantity of *Exhalations* out of the Sea, and that is the great Number of *ſaline Particles*, which probably may be drawn up and incorporated with them. At every Inſpiration, ſome of theſe *ſalt* Corpuſcles will be conveyed into the Lungs, and from thence inſinuate themſelves into the Maſs of Blood, where they are at Liberty to exert their ſtimulating Faculty, almoſt in its original Energy. For the *Air* being greatly deprived of its elaſtic Force, by the predominant *Moiſture*, it will be leſs able to expand the pul-

monary Veſicles, and break the Cohæ-ſions of the circulating Fluids, ſmall enough to qualifie them for a Paſſage through the ſecretory Glands of the Body. On this Account the *Blood* will become *viſcid*, *pungent* and *corro-ſive*, it will ſtagnate in the capillary *Veſſels*, the *Mouths* of thoſe Veſſels will be eroded, their *Contents* ſuffered to ouſe out into the adjoining *Cavities*, and innumerable *Maladies* will be form-ed, tho' vaſtly different in their *Appear-ances*. Hence proceed *Itchings* all over the Body, *cutaneous Eruptions*, *Scurvy*, *Jaundice*, *Obſtructions* in the *Liver*, *Spleen*, *Pancreas*, *Cachexy*, and ſeveral other Complaints, according to the Si-tuation or Function of the *Part* which happens to be aggrieved.

The great Quantity of *ſalt Proviſions* uſed in this *Iſland* will likewiſe very much aſſiſt in producing the foremen-tioned Diſorders, *Vid.* Dr. *Cockbourn's* Treatiſe of Sea-Diſeaſes. There

There is a Caution I would earneſtly recommend to the Gentlemen of *Barbadoes*, I mean, to avoid as much as poſſible expoſing themſelves to the *Damps* of the Evening; for it is evident that when the Heat has exhaled the Moiſture ſo plentifully from Animals, Vegetables, and the Sea, thoſe Steams and Vapours muſt be condenſed upon the Retreat of the Sun, and conſequently fall down again in *Dew*; which cannot fail of proving highly injurious to thoſe who neglect ſo neceſſary a Care in their *Conduct*. The right Aſcent and Deſcent of the Sun makes the *Crepuſculum* ſo ſhort, that there is a much more immediate Tranſition from the *Heat* of the Day to the *Damp* of the Evening in this *Iſland*, than in *Europe*. The Obviouſneſs of this Remark may perhaps make it appear impertinent, but I am led into it by the many fatal Inſtances I

have

have obſerved from the Diſregard of it, eſpecially among *New-Comers*.

Notwithſtanding what has been ſaid in general of the *Diſeaſes* to which this *Iſland* is more immediately expoſed by reaſon of its *Situation*, yet they may in a great meaſure be evaded by a regular Uſe of the *Non-Naturals*. I would not therefore be thought to inſinuate, that theſe *Diſorders* are neceſſary Conſequences, upon a Removal from *Europe* to *Barbadoes*, which would be doing an unpardonable Act of Injuſtice to one of the moſt delightful *Countries* in the Creation. I am thoroughly ſatisfied that if the *Prophylactick* and *Diætetic* Parts of Phyſick were better conſidered and obſerved, we ſhould have leſs Occaſion for the *Therapeutick*. The generous and open Hoſpitality of the *Inhabitants* frequently meets with as free a Compliance from *Strangers*, and the too liberal Reception often degenerates

generates into Intemperance and Exceſs. Hence proceed *Repletions*, *Surfeits*, *Inflammations*, *Dyſenteries*, *Fevers*, &c. which are commonly but unjuſtly aſcribed to Cauſes innocent of their Production.

In my Account of the *Fevers* moſt uſually met with in *Barbadoes*, I have made it my principal Care to inveſtigate their Progreſs in a manner the moſt ſimple and natural the *Difficulty* of the Subject would admit of, excluſive of any Prepoſſeſſion in Favour of this or that *Theory*, or Attachment to particular *Forms* and *Medicines* *. There ſeems to me to be nothing ſo much to be wiſhed for in *Phyſick* as a true and certain *Criterion*, by which we might be fully aſſured what *Symptons*

* In morbis acutis & inflammatoriis paucis opus eſtremediis, ſatis enim fuerit vias obſervare diligenter quà natura exitum tentat curamque eò perducere, naturæ obſecundando, alioqui ægrotus peſſumdabitur, *Sydenham*.

would

Would conſtantly follow from ſuch or ſuch *Circumſtances* if Nature was left to her ſelf in *acute Diſeaſes*. Every one who is converſant in *Practice*, and acquainted with Writers on that Subject, knows very well how frequently the *Succeſs* is imputed to the *Medicine* only, from a Defect of judging what the *Event* would have proved, if no *Medicine* had been adminiſtred.

No *Practitioner* more ſacredly obſerved this Precaution, than the ſincere Doctor *Sydenham*, and his great Predeceſſor *Hippocrates*. If theſe two eminent Obſervers had penetrated as deep into the true Reaſons of things, and underſtood the Dependences and Connexion there is between *Natural Cauſes* and their *Effects*, in the ſame demonſtrative Manner as Doctor *Mead*, Doctor *Freind*, *&c.* what might we not have expected from their Performances? And what Deficiency is there in

the former, which we may not hope to ſee fully ſupply'd by theſe learned Gentlemen ?

It has generally fallen out ſo, that thoſe who have been moſt popular in *Practice*, were advanced to that Height by Faction, Intereſt, or Artifice ; and hence it came to paſs, that they, who had the greateſt Opportunities of *Obſerving*, were not the beſt qualified for *judging* of the hidden Nature and obſcure Sources of Diſtempers. How happy then muſt that *Æra* of *Phyſick* be in which the *Knowledge* of its chief Profeſſors is as extenſive as their *Practice* is diffuſive ?

CHAP.

CHAP. I.

Of Fevers.

THE judicious Doctor *Sydenham* has remarked that *Fevers* may be accounted equal to two thirds of the chronical Diſeaſes with which Mankind are afflicted, but in the *Weſt-Indies*, (eſpecially with regard to *Strangers*) the Proportion runs much higher. there are very few upon their firſt Arrival who eſcape the Attacks of this furious Invader, for although *Temperance* and *Moderation* together with a prudent Uſe of the Non-Naturals may in a great meaſure alleviate the Symtoms and obviate the ill Conſequences, yet moſt People, how wary ſoever

they may be in their Conduct, are obliged to undergo what the Inhabitants call a *Seaſoning*. The Frequency therefore as well as the Fatality of this *Diſeaſe* deſervedly place it in the Front of Deſtroyers, for which Reaſon we ſhall give it the Preeminence in our Conſideration.

Among the numerous Variety of Diſtempers which paſs under the general Denomination of *Fevers*, there is no Species of Them which ſo endemically rages in theſe *Parts*, as the *Febris Ardens*, which for Reaſons hereafter aſſigned, I ſhall take the Liberty to call the *Febris Ardens Bilioſa*.

This Fever invades the Patient in a moſt precipitate Manner. The only Notice it gives of its Aſſauts is a momentory Chillneſs and Shivering, which is ſoon ſucceeded by a burning Heat, which diſperſes it ſelf univerſally over the

the Body, but is felt more intenſely about the Præcordia. This Heat is attended with a high, ſtrong and rapid Pulſe, Heavineſs in the Eyes, a throbbing Pain in the Head, and violent Beating of the temperal Arteries, a thick and laborious Reſpiration, Nauſeouſneſs and Reaching to vomit, and when any thing is thrown up, it is of the *bilious* Kind; to theſe we may add great Anxiety, pain in the Back and Loins, and an uneaſy Laſſitude in all the Limbs.

The *Symptoms* ſubſequent to theſe (which often diſcover themſelves in the Space of twelve Hours from the Invaſion) are a dry, harſh, rough, and diſcoloured Tongue, inſatiable Thirſt, Soreneſs all over the Body, great Reſtleſſneſs and Deliria.

In the laſt *Stage* the Patient labours under a deep Coma; Oppreſſion of the Præcordia; heaving of the Lungs; an

interrupted Reſpiration; Tremblings of the Tendons; Convulſions, and cold clammy Sweats.

Theſe are the three Advances to be taken Notice of in this *Fever*, which uſually terminates in a favourable *Criſis*, or the *Death* of the Patient, about the fourth Day after the Attack.

It has been obſerved by Phyſicians that Fevers are carried off by promoting the Secretion through the cuticular Glands, or through the urinary Paſſages, by a natural or artificial *Diarrhœa* through the Liver, Pancreas, Inteſtines, *&c.* and we may likewiſe add the *Jaundice*, which ſometimes appears upon the Patient when the *Fever* * is at the Decline.

What ſeems peculiarly remarkable in the *Fever* of which I am treating is the conſtant Tendency Nature ſhews

* *Vid. Pitcairn* of the Cure of Fevers by Evac.

to discharge her self of the Burthen she labours under, by dispersing and throwing out of the Mass of Blood*, that load of Bile, which is the principal Agent in this important Mischief. And I have very rarely known a happy *Crisis* obtained, where it has not plainly appeared to be the Consequence of Nature's having succeeded in this Attempt.

The regular *Crisis* therefore of this Fever generally discovers it self by a Suffusion of the *Bile* all over the Surface of the Body about the third Day. The Saffron Tincture is frequently observed in the Space of twelve Hours after the Attack, if you carefully inspect the Coats of the eyes, and the sooner it appears, the more encouraging is the *Prognostick*, if the Intention of Nature be not perverted by the preposte-

* Febris est motus naturæ, seu quædam lucta, quæ spirituum plus minus alteratorum ope, id, quod est hostile œconomiæ animali, eliminare satagit. *Ettmuller*.

rous Uſe of *Cordials* and *Alexipharmicks*.

If Bliſters are applied even in this early Stage of the Diſtemper (which the Vehemence of the Caſe often requires) they will make a plentiful Diſcharge of a *Bilious* Serum, the Urine will likewiſe be of the ſame Colour, as well as the inteſtinal Evacuations (which if neceſſary) may eaſily be procured by Manna, Cream of Tartar, and ſuch like lenitive Medicines.

The exceſſive Heat which accompanies this *Fever* during its whole Progreſs, if not abated in Time will be attended with many dangerous Conſequences, the fine Parts of the Blood will be diſſipated, the Spirits waſted, the Solids parched and dryed up, and the animal Fluids rendered incapable of continuing their Circulation *. *Bonetus* from

* Calor auctus liquidiſſima diſſipat ex noſtro cruore, id eſt aquam, ſpiritus, ſales, olea ſubtiliſſima; reliquam maſſam ſiccat, denſat, concreſcere cogit, in immeabilem irreſolubilem materiem; ſales, oleaq; expedit, attenuat,

from ocular Teſtimony affords us Inſtances of the Dryneſs of the Parts, and the Emptineſs of the Blood-Veſſels in ſuch as have dyed of *Fevers*, and Experiments teach us that the Serum of the Blood may be turned into a Jelly by a moderate Heat.

The firſt thing incumbent upon the *Phyſician* in theſe *Fevers*, is to order the Patient to be blooded as ſoon as he is called to his Aſſiſtance, and the Quantity is to be determined by the Force of the Diſtemper and the Strength of the Perſon †, though it will rarely be found that any ill Event is to be charged upon performing this Duty with too liberal a hand. I am ſure an ill timed Tenderneſs on this Occaſion has often paved the Way to inſuperable Difficul-

tenuat, acriora reddit, exhalat, movet; hinc minima vaſa atterit, rumpit, fibras ſiccat, rigidas, contractaſque reddit. Hinc ſubito multos, celeres, periculoſos, lethales morbos producit; qui a priori facilè deduci poſſunt. *Boerhaave Aph.* 689.

† Reſpiciendum non quæ ætas ſit, nec quid in corpore intus geratur, ſed quæ vires ſint. *Celſus Lib.* ii. *Cap.* x.

ties,

ties, and rendered all future Endeavours ineffectual.

Many Advantages are gained by this Operation. In the *Firſt* Place it procures an Abatement of the *Heat*, and the Symptoms dependent thereon, by diminiſhing the Quantity of the Blood, and retarding the Impetuoſity of its progreſſive Motion, as well as putting a Check upon the violent Agitation it is in from the too great Diviſion of its conſtituent Parts. *Secondly*, by this Means the Secretions are more readily performed, and a juſter Equilibrium obtained between the Fluids and the Solids. *Thirdly*, the Head is relieved by freeing its Membranes and Veſſels from the too great Tenſion they are under by reaſon of the Torrent of Blood which inceſſantly ruſhes in upon them. *Fourthly*, the Heart is the better inabled to perform its Function, the Reſiſtance it is to overcome being leſſened by Bleeding. In the

laſt

laſt Place, the Blood will be permitted to paſs with greater Freedom through the fine Veſſels of the Lungs, which will very much conduce towards relieving the Patient from the laborious manner of Breathing, which is a conſtant Concomitant of this *Diſeaſe*.

Theſe are ſome of the immediate good Effects which reſult from *Venæſection*, not to mention the many dangerous Symptoms might enſue upon the Omiſſion of it. This I can affirm, that I have never ſeen a true *bilious Criſis* (which is the Pathognomonick of this *Fever*) where the Lancet has not early been applied, and if the Uſe of it be omitted in the firſt Stage, I am afraid but little Aſſiſtance is to be expected from it afterwards. What I have ſaid in relation to the *Quantity* of Blood to be taken away at one Time, is alſo applicable to the *number* of times this Operation ought to be performed, and

the Spaces to be obſerved between aech Operation. For as this is a matter altogether depending upon a Variety of Circumſtances, and their different Degrees of Violence, which can never be reduced to one regular *Standard*, it muſt always remain at the Diſcretion of the *Phyſician* preſent to apply the *Rule* as the Heat of the Patient, and the Velocity of his Pulſe ſhall direct. However I dare venture to ſay thus much in general, that as long as the *Symptoms* continue in their full Vigour, or ſeem to gain ground upon the *Sick*, ſo long ſhould *Blood-letting* be repeated, once in ſix or eight Hours, obſerving that the Quantity be leſſened proportionably each time after the firſt *Phlebotomy*.

This being done the next thing of Moment is to make as plentiful a Diſcharge of the *Bile* as we poſſibly can, to prevent the Blood from being overcharged and too much inflamed with that turbu-

turbulent Fluid. Nor is there any Danger that by this Means we ſhall obſtruct or retard Nature in her Endeavours to promote a *Criſis*, which (as has been ſaid) is always dependent upon the *Bile*, for it is a great Aſſiſtance to *Nature* to relieve her in this Point, and (as it were) take Part of her Work off her Hands; and let us do all we can, there will ſtill remain a ſufficient Quantity for her to combat with. The Nauſeouſneſs and Propenſity to vomit in the Beginning of this *Diſtemper* is an Indication ſtrong enough to authorize this Practice, were it not ſtrengthned by many other cogent Reaſons *. Repeated Experiments have convinced me thorowly of the Truth and Juſtneſs of Doctor *Sydenham*'s Obſervation, when he ſays, '*Vomitu per-*

* Sane vomitorium propinare ubi prægreſſa eſt vomendi proclivitas adeò eſt neceſſarium, ut niſi humor ille expellatur, in ſentinam complurium malorum difficilium ſit abiturus, quæ crucem figent medico toto durante medicationis tempore, ægrumque in haud leve periculum conjicient. *Sydenham.*

'*acto, ſæva illa ſymptomata (nauſea*
'v. g. *& anxietas, jactationes, ſuſpi-*
'*ria luctuoſa, linguæ nigredo, &c.) quæ*
'*& ipſos ægros excruciârant, & ad-*
'*ſtantes perterrifecerant, mitigari ſolent*
'*ac ſolvi, quódque morbi reliquum eſt*
'εὐθύμως *tolerari.*

An *Emetick* therefore ought to be adminiſtred in the beginning * of the *Diſeaſe*, as ſoon as it can conveniently be done after the firſt Bleeding. Oxymel Scilliticum, Vinum Emeticum, or Radix Ipecacuanha will very well anſwer this Intention, but I prefer the laſt †, eſpecially if acuated with three or four Grains of emetick Tartar. This never fails to throw up, and very often

* Incipientibus morbis, ſi quid movendum ſit, move. *Hippoc. Aph.* xxix. *Lib.* ii.

Nullum remedium ſub *initiis* febrium, eſt æquè ſalutare ac vomitorium, ſæpenumero & neceſſarium eſt, ſi quando, quod pleruinque fit, nauſea, vel ventriculi gravitas, vel etiam capitis dolor invaſerit. *Freind.*

† Medicamenti, quo vomitus cietur, interior eſt quædam actio; quæ nuſquam aliàs ſe manifeſtius prodit, quam in celebri illâ radice ipecacuanhâ. *Freind.*

to discharge by Siege, a great Quantity of yellow, porraceous and sometimes blackish *Bile*, which if suffered to enter into the Mass of Blood, it is not difficult to conjecture what Havock would be made in the circulating Fluids. But farther, as the Action of *Vomiting* is perhaps one of the most universal Exercises the Human Frame is capable of being put into, every Limb, every Muscle, and even every Vessel and Gland of the Body will in some measure be influenced by the Agitations it produces, which must greatly assist in attenuating and dislodging their respective Contents. It has already been observed that the *Bile* in these *Fevers* has a particular Tendency to the Surface, and *Emeticks* very much forward and promote this Effort, by breaking and dividing the Particles of that Liquid small enough to pass through the Emunctories of the Skin, which otherwise would probably run in-

to

to Moleculæ too large to be tranſmitted thro' the other Strainers, and therefore might be arreſted in their Progreſs. This Obſervation ſeems to be confirmed by the *yellow* Tincture impreſſed upon the Linen of the Patient after having taken a Vomit, eſpecially if the Diſeaſe has been ſomewhat advanced before it was exhibited.

But this *Evacuation* alone will not be ſufficient to overcome this formidable Enemy. All our Engines muſt be at Work to ſtop its Career and check its Fury. *Hanc frænis, hanc tu compeſce Catenis.* In this Caſe we muſt have Recourſe to diluting, refrigerating and ſub-acid Liquors, made with Oranges, Lemmons, Tamarins, Spirit of Sulphur, Spirit of Vitriol, and ſuch like, in Barley-water, Spring-Water or other thin and cooling Vehicles. By this means we obtund the Acrimony of the *Bile*, relieve the hectick Dryneſs, obtain

tain plentiful Sweats, bridle and appeaſe the turgid hot Humours, and procure a more copious Succeſſion to the fainting Spirits. Nor is the Sick to be put under exact Reſtrictions in the Uſe of theſe ſeveral Sorts of *Beveridge*, but they are to be liberally allowed, according to the Demands and Appetite of the *Patient*.

And here I cannot forbear taking Notice how indulgent *Nature* is in pointing out to the *Phyſician*, even by the Cravings of the *Patient*, the Path he ought to purſue in relieving her from the Inſults of a *Diſtemper*. For what can be more grateful to a parched, burning Palate, than a Draught of refreſhing ſubacid Liquor? What more advantageous to a *bilious*, aduſt, over-fermented *Blood*, than a cooling, diluting and attenuating Liquid properly conveyed into it? Every one knows what Prognoſticks are to be formed from a dry, burning Skin, and an interrupted

Secretion of Urine; and does not Nature here dictate a Method, which by diluting proves at once diuretick and promotes Perſpiration? I believe there are at this time few *Phyſicians* who do not acknowledge the Service which has been done to Mankind by introducing the cool Regimen in *Fevers*, (I mean under proper Reſtrictions) and I am ſure in theſe *Weſt-India Fevers* of which I am treating, a *Phyſician*, who inſiſts upon a contrary Method, ſigns the *Dead Warrant* when he writes the Preſcription.

Gulielmus Piſo in his natural and medicinal Hiſtory of the *Weſt-Indies* has been very profuſe in his Encomiums upon the great Virtues of *Lemmons* and *Oranges* in putrid * and malignant Fevers,

* Peritiſſimi nonnulli Indiarum orientalium & occidentalium medicaſtri, præter vulgares illas toto orbi celebratiſſimas limonum & citreorum vires quas quoque perpetuò commendabiles habent, plus præſidii in duabus his

Fevers, in † Intermittents, and he relates a very memorable Story from *Athenæus* of their ſovereign *Energy* in reſiſting Poiſons ‡, inſomuch that he does not ſcruple with ſeveral other Authors to give them the general Name of *Mala Medica*. This is an unconteſted Truth, that the uſe of Lemmon or Lime-juice diluted with a proper Vehicle will occaſion a *Diaphoreſis*, when all the unnatural attempts by *Alexipharmicks* ſerve only to aggravate the Heat, inflame the Blood, and haſten on the fatal Period. I ſhall mention only one

his limonum partibus (ſemine ſcilicet & medullâ) ponunt contra malignos morbos & peſtilentes febres, atque ipſa denique venena, quam in lapide bezoardico & faſtidioſâ theriacæ compoſitione. *Piſo*, pag. 314.

† Anſam mihi ſuppeditari autumabam aliquid ad artis noſtræ incrementum ediſcendi, idque aliquoties tentans, non infeliciter proceſſit, in febribus ſcilicet intermittentibus, circa initium paroxyſmi, hauſtu calido ſucci limonum cum ſacchari & aquæ fontanæ tantillo, ſemel atque iterum exhibito, exacerbationes vel in totum ceſſaſſe, vel ſaltem indies præter expectationem ſimul cum ſiti deferbuiſſe, & intra paucos dies plane ſiluiſſe, deprehendi, ſubſequente utique manifeſto affectu, urinæ ſcilicet, & imprimis ſudorum largâ promotione, *Piſo* 315.

‡ Vid. *Piſonem*, pag. 313.

Inſtance of this Kind, out of a multitude which have come under my *Obſervation*.

Being called to a Gentleman about thirty Years of Age, of a vigorous, muſcular, ſanguine *Conſtitution*, I found his Pulſe ſtrong, full and riotous, his Eyes fierce and inflamed, his Breaſt and Præcordia burning and dry, he complained of violent Pain in his Head and Back with an Inclination to vomit. This was about ſix or ſeven Hours after the firſt Approach of the *Fever*. I inſtantly ordered eighteen Ounces of Blood to be taken from him, and ſoon after directed a vomit of Ipecacuanha with gr. iv. of Tartar. Emetic. and a ſmall pearl Julep upon going to bed, with orders to allow him plentifully a *Beveridge* made with Tamarinds if he ſhould require any Drink in the Night. He reſted pretty well that Night, and took three Draughts of his *Beveridge*. When I vi-

I visited him the next Morning I found him more composed and chearful, the Symptoms were abated, and the ruddy Inflammation in his Eyes disappearing afforded manifest Tokens of a successful *Crisis* by the gentle *Yellowness* which was visible in them. I then prescribed some Papers of cooling Powders, and left Instructions for him to continue in the free Use of subacid diluting Liquors. But being called into the Country, the Apothecary in my Absence (thinking I suppose *No Cordial No Cure*) presumed to give him a Bolus made with *Croc. Rad. Serpent.* and *Confect. Alkerm.* with some comfortable Draught, as they call it, to be taken afterwards. Upon my return to Town that Evening I found my *Patient* in a Flame, his Tongue was dry, sordid, and discoloured, his Skin parched with Heat, his Breathing laborious, with a *Subsultus Tendinum.* His Pulse was full and throb-

ing, but ſubject to great and frequent Intermiſſions. I ordered eighteen Ounces of Blood more to be taken immediately, and by renewing the former Courſe of cooling Powders, and allowing him the Tamarind Drink, thin refreſhing Emulſions, and Barley Water acidulated with Juice of Lemmons ad Libitum, I ſoon obtained a plentiful *Diaphoreſis*. By this eaſy and natural Method, with the Aſſiſtance of an emollient, cooling Clyſter repeated every eight Hours, he was perfectly recovered from a Condition ſeemingly ſo deplorable. I do not ſet this down as a ſingular and remarkable *Caſe*, but rather to give the Reader a general Idea what Succeſs is to be expected from the two different *Regimens*.

Nor is the Patient to be denyed the Gratification of the tartiſh juicy Fruits, if they do not participate of the auſtere and aſtringent Qualities, and are allowed him with Moderation. Of this Kind

are

are the *Ananas*, *Granadillo*, *Barbadoes Cherry*, *Water Melon* and such like. The ripe *Plantane* and *Banana* roasted will afford a Nourishment of light Digestion, as likewise the Jelly of *Guavas*, red and white *Sorrel*, *Plums*, *&c.* when dissolved in some convenient Vehicle.

I shall here subjoin a few of such *Formulæ* as are readily procured, and which I frequently made use of in these cooling Intentions.

℞. *Decoct. Hord.* ℔ij. *Aq. Lact. Alexiter.* ℔j. *Syrup. Limon.* ℥viij. *M. bibat ad libitum.*

℞. *Conserv. Tamarind.* ℥vj. *Coq. in Aq. fontan.* ℔iv. *Colatur. bibat frequenter.*

℞. *Succ. Express. Melon. aquatic. dict.* ℔ij. *Decoct. Hord.* ℔j. *Vin. Rhenan.* ℔ß. *Sacch. alb. q. s. ad gratam dulcedinem. Capiat ut priùs.*

℞. *Decoct. Hord.* ℔iij. *instillentur Sp. Nitr. gut. q. s. in eosdem Usus.*

℞. *Lact. Nucis Cocos* ℔ij. *Sp. Nitr. cum Ol. Vitriol. q. s. ad gratam aciditatem, & Sacch. alb. parum edulcoretur.*

℞. *Ptisan. Vulg.* ℔ ij. *Sp. Vitriol. q. s. ad grat. acid. CC. calcin. ad Albed.* ʒj. *utatur pro potu ordinario vase usûs tempore agitato.*

Some Authors say that Spirit of *Vitriol* is greatly opening and cooling, that it withstands *Putrefaction*, abates *Inflammation* and allays Thirst. For my own Part I have often observed good Effects from it, and no Mischief tho' given in the larger *Doses*.

We have another powerful *Auxiliary* against this formidable Invader, and that is the Tribe of cooling testaceous Powders which are to be called to our Assistance every four Hours. The following Forms are sufficient to shew in what Manner and Dose this Class of *Medicines* is to be exhibited.

℞. *Ocul. Cancr.* ʒß. *Sal. Prunel.* ʒij. *divid. in Dos.* viij. *capiat* j. *quartâ quaq; horâ. Or,*

℞. *Pulv. è Chel. simpl.* ʒß. *Crem. Tart.* ʒj. *capiat ut prius.*

℞. *Pulv.*

℞. *Pulv. Teſt. Ovor. calcinat. Corall. præparat. ana* ʒiij. *Nitr. pur.* ʒij. *in eoſdem uſus.*

Theſe not only help to refrigerate the boiling *Blood*, whoſe Compages is in a fair way to become too viſcid and compact, but alſo acting as *Diureticks* they prove attenuating and make a Diſcharge of the Humours by *Urine*.

Towards Evening it will be neceſſary to inject a *Clyſter*, which may be compoſed after the uſual Form, only adding half an Ounce of Crem. Tart. one Ounce of Manna or one Ounce of Pulp. of Caſſia to it. This ſeldom fails to carry off a Quantity of *bilious* Matter, and very much cools and refreſhes the Bowels.

After the Operation of the *Clyſter* is over it will be convenient to compoſe the *Patient* with any of the following *Draughts*; for in theſe *Fevers* the Spirits are very prone to run into Orgaſms and

Diſorders, which occaſion great Reſtleſſneſs and frequently bring on a *Delirium.*

℞. *Aq. Lactis Alex.* ℥iij. *Syrup. de Mecon.* ℥j. *M. Or,*

℞. *Aq. Menth. Simpl.* ℥ij. *Cinnam. Hord.* ℥j. *Laudan. liq. Syd. Gutt.* xxv. *Sacch. alb. q. s. M.*

℞. *Aq. Cinnam. Hord.* ℥ij. *Aq. Epidem. Syr. de Mecon. ana* ℥ij. *Laud. liq. gutt.* xx. *M.*

At this time every thing is to be ſhunned which may have the leaſt Tendency to promote *Inflammation.* The *Diet* ſhould be cooling and moiſtening, the *Air* temperate, the *Sun-Beams* excluded, and a *Hammock* is a much more proper Dormitory than a *Bed.* The *Room* ſhould be ſprinkled with Vinegar, Roſe-water and cooling Herbs, of which Kind the Iſland produces Plenty and Variety. The freſh *Air* is to be admitted into the *Patient's* Chamber in ſuch a manner that it does not blow in a direct Stream upon his Body, but rather cir-

circulates through an adjoining Apartment*.

Every one who is not an utter Stranger to the *Practice* of the *Ancients* must know how diligently they insisted upon the Regulation of *Diet* in *Fevers*, and that they expected the greatest part of the Cure from a strict Observance in this Point. The thinnest Aliment, such as *Ptisan* made with Barley, Hydromel, *&c.* was what they chiefly ordered; and I am confident was *Hippocrates* to see some of the modish Mixtures and Cordials which are prescribed by some in *Fevers*, in Defiance of all his Skill he would be at a Loss to guess at the *Distemper*.

By this familiar and plain *Method* of Treatment I have successfully relieved a great Number of afflicted *People* in the

* Prima methodicorum cura erat cubiculum ejusque aërem & modum cubandi cuivis morbo convenientem eligere, tum cibum potumque nisi iis plane abstinendum censerent, præscribebant, seduloque, quo morbus vergeret, observabant. Conrad. Ammian. præfat. ad. Cæl. Aurel.

first

firſt Stage of the *Diſeaſe*, which in all Probability would have been protracted to a more unconquerable Period by a more pompous *Procedure*. The Truth of this Obſervation has been too often made evident to me by the many fatal *Inſtances* I have had the Misfortune to be an Eye Witneſs to.

But ſince it often happens that the *Phyſician* is not ſent for 'till the *Diſeaſe* be ſomewhat advanced, and the *Symptoms* run ſo high as to demand a more rigorous Curb, I ſhall proceed to the ſecond *Stadium* of this *Diſtemper*. Here we meet with the Circumſtances much aggravated, the *Tongue* becomes furred, and the *Mouth* incruſtated with a blackiſh Scurf, the *Thirſt* encreaſes to an intolerable Degree and the Sick labours under a perpetual *Reſtleſſneſs* accompanied with *Delirium*.

Here again the *Lancet* is indicated in the ſtrongeſt manner, however freely

ly it may have been made uſe of before. Theſe *Diſorders* are ſuch palpable Marks of an headſtrong *Inflammation*, that there is no Relief to be expected before that is ſubdued. In this *State* the Blood is rarified to an exceeding Degree, and you meet with the manifeſt Tokens of a *Plethora*; for the Veſſels of the *Eyes* appear turgid and red as in an Ophthalmia, and the *Spirits* are agitated with the utmoſt Rapidity and Confuſion. In order to free the *Head* ſtom this dangerous Condition we may expect good Aſſiſtance from *Cupping*, with deep Scarifications in the Shoulders, which often procures ſo ſenſible and ſpeedy a *Revulſion*, that I have known *Phyſicians* themſelves aſtoniſhed at their own Succeſs upon the Application of them.

Bliſters

Bliſters * are alſo of great Moment and Efficacy at this Juncture, and are therefore not to be forborn any longer. The *Bile* being now afloat is to be diſcharged by every Outlet, *Qua data porta ruit*. It is almoſt incredible what large Quantities of this *Juice* may be evacuated by the external Uſe of *Cantharides*; for their *Salts*, entring into and mixing with the Maſs of Blood, diſſolve and attenuate the viſcid Particles, prevent the growing *Lentor*, and by their cauſtick Quality open the Mouths of the Veſſels for their Expulſion. Another great Benefit we gain from *Bliſters*, is the Tendency they have to the Bladder, by which means another plentiful Diſcharge of the redundant Bile is obtained; for by precipitating (if I may uſe the Expreſſion) thoſe Particles to

* Hæc quippe uti valentiſſima ſunt, maximéque efficacia, ita morbi vim allevant modo quodam expeditiore magiſque inopinato, quam cætera quæcunque evacuantia, venæſectionem ſi exceperis, ſolent. *Freind.*

the

the urinary *Organs*, they throw off abundance of them by that *Secretion*. I ſhall not enter into a Detail of the Arguments for and againſt *Veſicatories*, which may be ſeen at large in *Baglivi*, Doctor *Freind*, and Doctor *Cockbourn* *; but I can affirm from *Experience* that when they have been applied before it was too late, a *Coma* (the deadly Symptom of this *Diſtemper*) has very rarely enſued.

The *Patient* is now to be treated with the ſtricteſt Care in regard to his *Regimen*; his Coverings muſt be light, eaſy and uniform, his Apartment clean, cool, and quiet; his Poſture reclining and natural; all Company excluded, and in ſhort every Artifice muſt be employed which may ſolicit him to *Repoſe*. Soft cooling, anodyne *Emulſions* are frequently to be adminiſtred in the fol-

* Comment. ix. de veſicantibus quæ cantharidas recipiunt.

lowing or ſome other proper and palatable Forms.

℞. *Amygd. dulc. excorticat. Sem. Melon. Papav. alb. ana* ʒß. *in Mortario marm. cum Decoct. Hord.* ℔ij. *F. S. A. Emulſio ſæpius ſumend. Or,*

℞. *Amygd. dulc. Sem.* 4. *Frig. Maj. ana* ʒj. *Lact. Nucis Cocoſ.* ℔ij. *F. S. A. Emulſio, cui adde Syrup. è Mecon.* ʒij. *Uſus ut prius.*

It is to be obſerved that the Almonds before they arrive at *Barbadoes* generally contract to diſagreeable Harſhneſs and Rancidity, which I have ſometimes diſcovered to prove highly offenſive and injurious to the Stomach of the *Patient*. *Nature* has therefore been very indulgent in ſupplying us ſo plentifully with a *Succedaneum* which to all Purpoſes fully recompenſes the Defect of the former: I mean the Kernel of the *Coco-nut* which affords an *Emulſion* in all Reſpects equal if not ſuperior to the beſt *Almonds*,

monds, which for the reaſon above I would always direct in their Place.

All Sorts of *Meats*, even *Veal* and *Chicken-Broths*, are religiouſly to be avoided *, and the higheſt *Diet* the *Sick* ought to be indulged in is thin *Panado* or *Water-Gruel* gratefully ſweetned and acidulated. Cordial *Draughts* and *Juleps* are likewiſe to be caſhiered unleſs they are of the moſt temperate Compoſition, and I believe *Barley-Water* or *Aq. Lactis* may anſwer all the Intentions of a Vehicle for the cooling *Powders*, which in the preſent Caſe ſhould conſiſt of a Quantity of Sal. Prunel. or Chryſtal. Tart. equal to the other half of the *Doſe*.

The extreme *Thirſt* being a very uneaſy and grievous *Symptom*, it is neceſſary to have a ſpecial Regard to the

* Cum ergo morbus eſt peracutus extremos protinus obtinet labores, & extremi tenuiſſimâ victus ratione neceſſariò utendum. *Hippoc. Aph.* 7. l. 1.

Cum morbi ſumma eſt vehementia, tum vel tenuiſſimo victu utendum eſt. *Aph.* 8.

Relief of the *Patient* in this Point; for which reaſon, beſides plentiful and frequent *Draughts* of cooling Liquor, we muſt have recourſe to ſuch Subſtances as refreſh the Palate and promote Spittle. Of this Kind are preſerved *Tamarinds*, Slices of *Lemmon* with a little Sugar, but above all, the Fruit called *Pinguins*, which being held in the Mouth, by their grateful and active Sharpneſs are capable of penetrating thro' the moſt tough and tenacious Scurf, and by that means uncover the Orifices of the Salival Ducts, and enable the Glands of the Mouth and Throat to diſcharge their Contents, which could not be done before the Impediment was removed. Thus we do not only mitigate the uneaſy Senſation, which is no inconſiderable Matter when *Reſt* is to be procured, but we alſo free the Glands themſelves from the Superfluity with which they are loaded. The terrible Effects of

Juices

Juices ſtagnating and fermenting in their reſpective Glands is at this time no Secret, and perhaps there is not a more fermentative *Liquor* in the human Body than the *Saliva*. I have often obſerved in the Decline of theſe *Fevers* very painful Puſtules and Aphthæ in the Mouth, and dangerous Impoſtumations in the Throat, which probably might have been prevented if the Orifices of thoſe Glands had been kept clean and open.

Tho' I have inſiſted ſo much upon a ſtrict Adherence to *cooling* and *anodyne* Emulſions; yet I would not have them thought ſufficient without the Aid of more powerful *Opiates*, among which I know none of eaſier Conveyance or more efficacious Properties than Dr. *Sydenham's Liquid Laudanum*. It is not poſſible for me in this Place to adjuſt the *Doſes* of this Medicine to all Exigences, but I am ſatis-

fied that this Remedy ought to be given *here* in a more free Manner than is uſual in *Europe*. I would therefore adviſe a ſufficient Number of theſe *Drops* to be adminiſtred every Night in a ſmall Draught of Barley-Water, or one of the above-mentioned Juleps.

It is to be remembred that during theſe Adminiſtrations the *Bowels* are to be kept eaſy and open, and the *Patient* muſt be ſolicited to a Diſcharge by cooling and lenitive *Clyſters*, repeated once in eight Hours, which may be compoſed in the following Manner.

℞. *Aq. Decoct. Hord.* ℥ix. *Nitri pur.* ℥ß. *Syr. Roſar. ſolut. cum. ſen* ℥ii. *F. Enema.* Or,

℞. *Decoct. commun. pro Clyſt.* ℥x. *Sal. Tart.* ℥ß. *Mell. Roſar.* ℥j. *M.*

After what has been already ſaid it may ſeem needleſs to exclude from *Practice*, in the two firſt Stages of this *Diſeaſe*, all kind of Boluſſes made with *Alexi-*

Alexipharmick Electuaries, as *Mithridate*, *Philonium Persicum*, *Philonium Romanum*, *Theriaca Andromachi*, *Diascordium Sylvii*, *&c.* or with the warm *diaphoretick* Plants, as *Saffron*, *Radix Serpentaria* and such like; but this has been so favourite a *Method*, and so destructive in its Consequences, that the Danger of continuing it cannot be too frequently and too warmly inculcated to the *Practitioners* in *Barbadoes*.

Having gone through the general Treatment of the two first Stages of these *Fevers*, I shall now proceed to the third and last period of them. As soon as we discover any Tendency in the *Patient* to become *comatose* we are then to apprehend that the third Degree of the *Distemper* is advancing. In this *Stage* we meet with all the rueful Concomitants upon an interrupted *Circulation*: The *Blood* is become viscid

and glewy : It is impeded in its Progreſs through the *Capillaries* : The Veſſels of the *Brain* are blockaded, the Secretion of the *Spirits* obſtructed : The Paſſage through the *Lungs* retarded : The Functions of the whole animal *œconomy* are perverted ; and in a Word, the ſprightly vivifying *Fluid* becomes a lazy, ſtagnating, unactive, Puddle. Hence we may eaſily apprehend the Reaſons of the Difficulty of *Breathing*, Oppreſſion of the *Præcordia*, the *comatous* Inſenſibility, the *Tremors* of the Nerves, the *Subſultus Tendinum*, the Interruption of the *Pulſe*, and at length its total Ceſſation, which is *Death*.

The *Phyſician* at this time has a very uncomfortable Province, in being obliged to give his Attendance to a *Patient* under theſe Circumſtances ; for as he has then little Expectation from the Rules of his *Art*, or the Efficacy of his *Medicines*, the moſt prudent Way will

be,

be, to appriſe thoſe who are about the *Sick* of the impending Danger, and by the Sincerity of his *Prognoſtick* compenſate in ſome Meaſure for the Deficiency of his *Aſſiſtance*. But however deplorable this *Caſe* may be, yet it is not abſolutely deſperate. I could produce an Inſtance of a very valuable young Lady in *Barbadoes*, who was preſerved after having laboured under the extremeſt *Degree* of the forementioned Circumſtances. But as ſingular *Caſes* are generally repreſented rather out of private and perſonal Oſtentation than for any real Service to *Mankind*, I ſhall proceed to thoſe few Attempts which may afford us any Hopes of proving beneficial to the *Patient*.

There is no Time to be loſt at this Inſtant; a compleat Set of *Bliſters* muſt immediately be applied if there had been none before, and if there were, even thoſe muſt receive a freſh Charge

of *Cantharides*. Theſe *Applications* are to be made to the Nape of the Neck, to the Wriſts, Thighs and Legs; but more eſpecially a large one to the *Crown* of the Head, which will (if any thing can) invigorate the Circulation and give the Spirits Liberty to expand themſelves. Perhaps this may ſeem a very rigorous and cruel way of Proceeding, but we ought not to ſuffer an imaginary *Humanity* to prevail ſo far with us to lead us into an Omiſſion of the only Means which is left for the ſick Perſon's *Preſervation**. This ſeeming Severity will be ſo far from putting the *Patient* upon the Rack, that it will be well if all our Endeavours can rouze him from his Stupidity and recall him back to *Life* and *Senſation*.

* Eadem in medente mollities adeo non ferenda, ut maxime in vicio ſit: quem ſane, humaniſſimum licèt, ubi vitæ periculum immineat, potiùs tortoris vicem præbere decet, quam huic cubantium timiditati ſubſcribere. *Freind.*

There

There are other external *Applications* made uſe of, which may poſſibly contribute ſomething in this Affair; ſuch as *Pedilotions*, *Cataplaſma de Halecibus*, *Emplaſtrum Cephalicum cum Euphorbio* applied to the Soles of the Feet, *Pigeons* juſt killed and ſlit open, the warm *Lungs* of Sheep, Calves, Goats, *&c.*

At this Time we are to expect no very great Feats from our *internal* Auxiliaries; however, it will not be amiſs to comfort and refreſh the languiſhing *Patient* at proper Intervals, with Doſes of *cephalick* and *cordial* Medicines, volatile *Salts* and ſuch like, which may help to give *Nature* a ſhort Breathing-Time to exert her ſelf, tho' nothing permanent is to be depended upon from them. If any Member of the *Materia medica* has a Pretenſion to be of real Service, it is undoubtedly *Camphire*, which if not underdoſed will diſplay its Efficacy in a ſurpriſing manner.

I have

I have ſometimes had Succeſs from the following Forms of preſcribing it.

℞. *Camph.* gr. vj. *Caſtor.* gr. v. *Confect. Alkerm.* ʒß. *F. Bolus.*

℞. *Camph.* gr. vj. *Sal. Succini* gr. viij. *Lap. Contrayerv.* gr. x. *Syrup. e Cort. Citri q. s. ut F. Bolus.*

℞. *Camph.* gr. vij. *Rad. Contrayerv.* ℈j. *Sal. volat. CC.* gr. viij. *Confect. Alkerm. q. s.*

℞. *Camph. Croc. Anglican. ana* gr. vj. *Lap. Contrayerv.* gr. xv. *Electuar. de Ovo q. s. M.*

There is one *Adminiſtration* more which muſt by no means be omitted, and that is *Clyſters*, which upon this Occaſion muſt be made much more ſtimulating and forcible than thoſe already directed. The enſuing *Formulæ* may ſerve as Specimens of thoſe I have found to be the moſt advantagious.

℞. *Decoct.*

℞. *Decoct. Commun. pro Clyſt.* ℔i. *Fol. Senn.* ʒß. *coq. ad* ℔ß. *Colatur. adde Tinct. Hier. picr.* ʒiij. *Ol. Junip. Chym. gut.* x. *M. F. Enema. Vel,*

℞. *Decoct. Commun.* ℥viij. *Syrup. de Rhamn. cathart.* ʒij. *Ol. Chamæmel.* ʒj. *M. Vel.*

℞. *Decoct. Commun.* ℥viij. *Vin. Benedict.* ʒj. *Sal. Gem.* ʒß. *Ol. Succini.* gij. *M.*

Having laid down the general *Intentions* of Cure in the three *Stages* of this *Fever*, I ſhall in the next Place proceed to give a brief Account of what is to be done in ſome of the moſt material *Symptoms* as they may occaſionally call for the more immediate Regard of a *Phyſician.*

Pain of the *Head*, *Watchfulneſs* and *Deliria* are to be relieved by emollient and laxative *Clyſters*, gentle *Purgatives*, *Cupping* with Scarification, Breathing the frontal *Vein*, *Lotions* of the *Feet*,

and

and *Narcoticks*. *Anodyne Applications* to the Head and Temples are of Service; ſuch as *Roſe-leaves* infuſed in *Vinegar*, *Roſe-Cake* dipped in Spirit of Wine, with *Camphire* and *Vinegar*, *Liquid Laudanum* in Roſe-Water. Or,

℞. *Acet. Roſat.* ℥ij. *Opii, Camph. ana* ℈ij. *in Sp. Lavendul. comp.* ℥j. *Solut. M. & applicetur Temporibus cum pannis linteis.*

Bliſters alſo very much aſſiſt in making a Derivation of the offending Humours from the Head, and freeing its Veſſels from the acrid Serum which perpetually twitches and irritates them into ſpaſmodical *Contractions*.

Convulſions require much the ſame Treatment externally, and at the ſame time internal, nervous and *cephalick* Medicines, ſuch as *Aurum Moſaicum*, compound Spirit of *Lavender*, and chiefly *Pulv. de Gutteta Mayern.* in appropriate Juleps.

The

The *Coma*, as it is one of the moſt frequent and dangerous Symptoms, has been fully conſidered in the general *Cure*.

I have endeavoured to follow *Nature* as near as I am able through the intricate Mazes of this *Diſtemper*, in which the preceding *Symptoms* tread ſo cloſe upon the Heels of the ſucceeding, that it is very difficult to determine the real Intervals between the ſeveral Gradations. We are not here to expect and wait for the *judicatory* and *critical* Days, but rather to watch and attend to each important Minute. This Velocity, with which *Nature* arrives at the happy or fatal Period, renders the *Predictions* extremely dubious; for which Reaſon it behoves the *Phyſician* not to be too ſanguine in the Aſſurances he gives his *Patients*.

Prognoſticks taken from an Inſpection of the *Urine* are much more preca-

rious here than in *Europe*. Whether we conſider the *Suſpenſions*, *Clouds* or *Sediment*, the Heat of the Climate acting ſo forcibly upon that *Fluid*, that the Coheſions of its Contents are ſoon altered, and its Salts ſo differently affected by the Agitations and Fermentations it undergoes on that Account, that little is to be depended upon from its Appearances. This is evident from the *putrid* Scent it emits a few Hours after it is diſcharged. There is only one Alteration in the *Urine* which can ſafely direct us in our Judgments relating to Concoction, and that is the Quantity of *Bilious* Salts contained in it, which are eaſily diſcoverable by the deep yellow *Tincture* it impreſſes upon Linen dipped into it. In Proportion to the Strength of this Colour, the *Criſis* (if regular) advanceth ; whoever therefore judges of the State of *Putrefaction* the Humours are under, by Informations gathered

thered from the *Urine* (except when newly discharged, which is not a time for Inspection) will find himself led into dangerous Errors, for the Reasons just now assigned. But the principal Intent of *Nature* being to bring about a Depuration of the Blood by dispersing the *Bile* upon the Surface of the Body, and throwing it out by the several *Secretions*, a sound and rational Expectation may be built upon her Procedure therein.

There is another Circumstance which renders the *Prognosticks* very uncertain, which is the unequal Progress *Nature* makes in this kind of *Fevers*; for she does not always proceed in an uniform Tenour through the several Degrees of the *Disease*, but often forms fallacious and flattering Appearances; insomuch that a little before Death the *Patient* shall seem manifestly better in every Respect,

Reſpect, and this does not only happen towards the Concluſion, but indifferently at all times of the *Diſtemper*. Theſe ſhort-lived Remiſſions require great Judgment and Circumſpection in the *Phyſician* to determine rightly the Event.

It is now time for me to haſten to ſuch Inconveniences as are conſequent upon theſe *Fevers*, when the original *Diſeaſe* has been already vanquiſhed. The moſt frequent or rather inſeparable Effect is the great *Debility* and Weakneſs of the *Patient*; for it is no unuſual thing to ſee Men of an athletick Conſtitution, and full Habit of Body reduced to a weak, low, and waſted Condition in a few Days by this *Fever*; the *Skin* continuing all the time dry, no ſenſible *Sweat*, no *Evacuation* by Stool, very little *Urine*, and all the Secretions at a ſtand except inſenſible

ſenſible *Perſpiration* *. This Weakneſs, though ſo ſpeedily brought about, often requires a conſiderable Time after the Expiration of the *Fever* to be retrieved. When this *Debility* is alone and uncomplicated with other ill Symptoms, there is little more required to reſtore the Strength of the *Patient*, than a *Stomach Purge* or two, mild agreeable *Bitters* to promote the Appetite and invigorate the Blood, with a proper *Regimen*, and Food ſuitable to repair the emaciated Habit. But if the recovery of Strength ſhould proceed too ſlowly under theſe Adminiſtrations, we may call into our Aſſiſtance *reſtorative Electuaries*, made up with preſerved *Citron*, *Confect. Alkerm.* de *Hyacinth. Corall. præparat. &c.* in any of the following Forms.

* Quis non experitur a quavis læviſſimâ febre attenuari homines, quod per habitum digerantur ſucci in vaſis febrientis contenti, & etiam nonnullæ ejuſdem corporis partes. *Pitcairn.*

℞. *Conſerv. Citri* ℥ij. *Zinzib. cond.* ℥j. *Corn. Cervi calcinat.* ℥ß. *Ol. Cinnam. Gut.* vj. *Syr. è Cort. Citri q. s. ut fiat Electuar. capiat Quantitatem Nuc. Moſc. ter in Die. Vel,*

℞. *Conſerv. Roſ. rubr. Abſynth. Roman. ana* ℥j. *Citri Zinzib. cond. ana* ℥ß. *Spec. Confect. de Hyacint.* ℥ij. *Syrup. è Cort. Citri q. s. Vel,*

℞. *Conſerv. Cynosbat.* ℥ij. *Zinzib. cond.* ℥ij. *Croci* ℈j. *Sp. Sulph. per Campan. Gut.* xv. *Syrup. Limon. q. s. in eoſdem Uſus.*

Great Care is to be taken by People in this Condition, that they avoid all Injuries of the Weather, leſt they fall into *dropſical Diſorders*, which are readily brought on, but with great Difficulty recovered under ſuch an impoveriſhed Stock of *Fluids*, and ſo enervated a State of *Solids*. All Diet of difficult Digeſtion is abſolutely to be denied, and the white Meats, as *Chicken*, *Turkey*, *Rabbit*, *Broths* made of Veal

and

and Fowls, Sago, *Jellies* and such like are to be persisted in till such time as the concoctive Faculties are enabled to perform their Functions with their original Force and Vigour.

The *yellow Tincture* upon the Skin is another subsequent upon this Distemper, and here again the Patient is under a Necessity to adhere to a strict *Regimen*, lest the *Bile* should repullulate upon the languid Viscera, and give Rise either to a fresh *Fever* or a confirmed *Jaundice*. In this Case after a Vomit of Rad. Ipecac. and a Purge or two with Decoct. of Sena, Tamarinds, &c. the Use of Lemmons, Oranges, and other acid Fruits may be allowed, for they refrigerate the hot Juices and resist the redundance of the *Bile*. If this Disorder should continue so long, and in such a Degree as to alarm the *Physician* and terrifie the *Patient*, then such Remedies are to be

uſed, as are recommended in the Chapter of the *Jaundice*.

Sometimes the *Bile* takes ſuch a Turn as to be thrown in great Abundance upon the Inteſtines, and occaſion a *Diarrhœa*. This Evacuation being critical muſt by no means be ſuddenly checked, unleſs the feeble Condition of the Patient renders him incapable of ſuſtaining the *Diſcharge*; and then it is neceſſary to have recourſe to ſoft, mucilaginous, nutritive and antibileous Subſtances, ſuch as *Jellies* with Lemmon-Juice, Broths acidulated and the *Decoctum Album* for common Drink. But when the Matter evacuated by the Inteſtines ceaſes to be charged with *Bile*, and becomes thin, pituitous and whitiſh, then it is needful to apply to ſuch Remedies as are proper for that *Diſeaſe* in particular, which ſee in the Chapter of a *Diarrhœa*.

Some-

Sometimes a *Dropſy* or a *Cachexy* ſucceeds this *Fever*, when the Cure has been injudiciouſly managed, or the *Patient* has been negligent in his Conduct upon Recovery: but as theſe do not ſo commonly occur, and as they depend upon a particular State of the Blood and Solids, without much Regard to the preceding *Fever*, the manner of their Cure ſhall be referred to their reſpective *Chapters*.

CHAP. II.

Of the Colick.

THIS is a Diſtemper which very frequently occurs in *Barbadoes*; and as it is attended with the moſt aggravating *Torture*, and the Conſequences of it are of the higheſt Importance, it very juſtly demands the ſerious Conſideration of a *Phyſician*.

This *Diſeaſe* originally obtained the Appellation of *Colica* or *Dolor colicus*, from that part of the Bowels called *Colon*, ſuppoſed to be the Seat of it; but as this is a Diſtinction of no great Moment, and ſeeing that the whole Length of the inteſtinal Tube may be

afflicted

afflicted with grievous *Senſations*, it will be more to the Purpoſe to conſider it under ſuch Diviſions as bear a ſpecifick Difference from each other, and are to be treated very oppoſitely in point of *Cure*.

The *Colick* then may properly be diſtinguiſhed into the four following Kinds, *viz.* the *bilious*, the *flatulent*, the *hyſterical*, and the *nervous*; or more generally into the *flatulent* and *humoral*. I ſhall treat of each of theſe diſtinctly.

SECT. I.

Of the bilious Colick.

THIS Diſeaſe is obſerved to afflict People more particularly in the ſultry Seaſons, eſpecially ſuch as are of a hot *bilious* Temperament, in the Vigour of their Age, and accuſtomed

to indulge in the Uſe of ſtrong ſpirituous *Liquors*.

It ſeizes upon the *Bowels* in an unmerciful manner, a burning, acute, continued Pain is felt about the Region of the Navel, the Patient has a ſtrong, high and full Pulſe, is very feveriſh, labours under extream Thirſt, and the Body is very coſtive. Theſe *Symptoms* are ſucceeded by a vomiting of hot, bitter, yellow *Bile*, which being diſcharged ſeems to afford ſome ſmall Interval of Eaſe, but is quickly followed by the ſame intolerable Pain as before. This Propenſion to *vomit* grows upon the Patient as the Diſtemper advanceth; inſomuch that ſometimes it becomes continual, and the periſtaltick Motion of the Bowels is ſo far perverted that you meet with all the Symptoms of an impending *Iliack* Paſſion. At this time the Pain is ſo intenſe as to occaſion a *Singultus*, *Delirium*,

Coldneſs

Coldneſs in the Extremities, and chilling clammy Sweats, which are always of dangerous Omen in this *Diſeaſe*.

In the Beginning of this *Colick* Blood-letting is not to be omitted, upon Account of the Inflammation, and feveriſh Circumſtances the Patient is under; which having been performed, we muſt endeavour by all means to alleviate the Pain, and unburthen the Bowels of the *bilious* Humours which give Riſe to this Diſorder. Both theſe Intentions may be anſwered by mingling *Opiates* with the Purges, which will prove ſo far from retarding the Operation of *Cathartick*s, that they are found very rarely to ſucceed without ſuch Aſſiſtance. The moſt convenient Form for exhibiting theſe *Medicines* is in Pills, which may be made after the following manner.

℞. *Extract.*

℞. *Extract. Rudii* ʒß. *Laudan. Lond.* gr. jß. *Ol. Caryoph. Gut.* ij. *F. Pil.* v. *Vel.*

℞. *Pil. ex Duobus* ʒß. *Calomel.* ∋j. *Laudan. Lond.* gr. ij. *F. Pil.*

During the Operation of theſe Pills the Patient muſt drink *Water-Gruel* ſweetned with Manna, which if the Inclination to vomit will permit him to do in any conſiderable Quantity, it will greatly aſſiſt in opening a Paſſage through the Guts, and waſhing away the offending Humours.

After the Operation of the Purge the Patient is to be compoſed with an *Opiate*, which in this Caſe is much more effectual when given in Subſtance than in any of the liquid Preparations; and I have often known the *London Laudanum* take Place, when no *narcotick* Draught, how ever contrived, could be retained upon the Stomach.

It will be neceſſary to repeat the Pills every other Day till there is good Reaſon to believe that the acrimonious Matter is thorowly evacuated, for as long as there is any remains of it in the Bowels, a freſh *Paroxyſm* is to be expected; and even after the Recovery it may be convenient to give three or four Spoonfuls of the *Tincture* of *Rhubarb* made in *Madera-Wine*, at leaſt twice a Week for a Month following.

On thoſe Days in which the Patient is not purged a *cathartick Clyſter* may be injected.

℞. *Decoct. com. pro Clyſt.* ℥viij. *Syrup. de Spin. Cerv.* ℥ij. *Ol. Chamæm.* ℥j. *M. F. Enema.*

Whether *Clyſters* actually penetrate farther than the Valve of the *Colon* (which they ſeem not capable to do) is not much to the preſent Purpoſe, ſince it is evident from the Quantity of

bilious

bilious Matter they bring away, and the Eaſe they procure even when the Pain is felt ſuperior to the Valve, that they muſt influence the Inteſtines to a Diſcharge through the whole Length of their *Canal*.

Upon the Abatement of the Symptoms and the Recovery of the Patient, Doctor *Sydenham* very juſtly recommends riding as a prevailing Means to prevent the Return of the *Fit*, invigorate the Bowels, and ſtrengthen the concoctive Powers. I have frequently experienced the good Effects of this Advice, but there is ſtill another Exerciſe which I have obſerved to be of more ſpeedy, more effectual, and more laſting Advantage, and that is being carried round the Iſland in a Ship or Sloop, which is a Conveniency few People need want in *Barbadoes*. I have ſeen thoſe who were reduced to the moſt calamitous Appearance, and even

upon the Verge of the Grave by a long continued *Colick*, in a Week's Time recruited to a Degree beyond Expreſſion only by this Method of ſailing, when they were incapable of undergoing any other Sort of Carriage.

As this *Colick* bears a very near Reſemblance to that which accompanies *nephritick* Diſorders, I ſhall conclude this Section with thoſe Marks of Diſtinction which *Riverius*, and after him Dr. *Sydenham* has pointed out to us. *Firſt*, the *nephritick* Pain is fixed in the Kidney, and propagated from thence thro' the whole length of the *Ureter*. The *colick* Pain is more vagrant, and affects the Middle of the *Belly* like the forcible Conſtriction of a Girdle. *Secondly*, the *colick* Pain is worſe after eating, but the *nephritick* is not ſo. *Thirdly*, in *nephritick* Pains the Urine is at firſt clear, and afterwards it has a *Sediment* and *Gravel* mixed with it; but

in

in the *Colick* the Urine is thick from the beginning.

SECT. II.

Of the hyſterick Colick.

THE *Colick* is ſo frequently annexed to *hyſterical* Diſorders, that this Species of it may rather be eſteemed a Branch of that Diſeaſe than a real and diſtinct Diſtemper. Any one who knows what Tumults and Agitations the Spirits are thrown into, and how eminently the whole Syſtem of the Nerves is affected in theſe *uterine* Paſſions, will not be at a loſs to apprehend how the Bowels are diſpoſed to bear their Share in the Misfortune. The *muſcular* and *nervous Coats* of the Inteſtines cannot fail of being put into great Diſorders by the univerſal Irritations the *Spirits* are under in theſe Caſes,

and

and by Conſent the other *Viſcera*, as the Liver, Spleen and Pancreas, will be ſolicited to throw out their Contents too plentifully, on which account the Bowels will be overloaded with *bilious*, *pituitous* and other fermentative Juices. Beſides, it being highly probable that the Chyle in theſe Affections is not ſufficiently comminuted and digeſted to undergo with Eaſe the ſeveral *Secretions*, the Bowels will likewiſe for this reaſon be charged with crude and flatulent Humours, and thereby ſubject to *Colical* Invaſions.

The *Symptoms* here are in all reſpects ſo conformable to thoſe of the *bilious Colick*, that they cannot without great Difficulty be diſtinguiſhed from them. We muſt therefore ſeriouſly attend to the original Diſorder, which will direct the *Phyſician* to the only true and genuine Indications of Cure.

The

The Complaints of the *Patients* are extreamly urgent, ſhe feels an exquiſite convulſive kind of Torment about the Region of the *Belly*, ſhe throws up great Quantities of yellow and ſometimes porraceous *Bile*, her Skin is tinctured as in a real *Jaundice*, her Reſpiration is performed with Difficulty, and ſhe labours under an extraordinary Dejection of Mind and Lowneſs of Spirits, and frequently ſinks into *Deliquia* and Swoonings. After a few Days the Symptoms remit conſiderably, but this Truce does not laſt long, for the Paroxyſm returns again in a little time with its former Severity, till at length it becomes almoſt habitual to the afflicted *Patient*.

The appeaſing the inordinate Tumult the Spirits are in, is the firſt thing indicated in this Diſtemper. The *bilious* Diſcharges made from the *Stomach* have unwarily betrayed *Phyſicians* into

the

the Uſe of *Cathaticks*, which are ever prejudicial in *Hyſterical Colicks*, for inſtead of evacuating the Humours, they rather by reaſon of their Stimulus put the Bowels into Spaſms and Convulſions, to which theſe kind of Patients are extreamly liable. Beſides, the Sinking of the Spirits, which generally is conſequent upon Purging, ſhould be cautiouſly avoided in *Hyſterical* Conſtitutions.

However it may not be improper to adminiſter an emollient ſoftning *Clyſter*, which may help to relax the *Fibres* of the Inteſtines which at this Time are too tenſe and contracted.

℞. *Lactis* ℥x. *Ol. Chamæm.* ℥iij. *Pulp. Caſſiæ* ℥j. *Sacch. Cochl.* j. *M. Vel,*

℞. *Fuſcul. Vitulin.* ℥viij. *Ol. Amygd. d.* ℥iv. *Sacch. q. s. F. Enema.*

After the Operation of the *Clyſter* the Patient is to be compoſed with

Opiates given in *Antihyſterick* Juleps in the following manner.

℞. *Aq. Lact. Alex.* ℥vj. *Aq. Bryon. comp.* ℥iij. *Tinct. Caſtor.* ℥j. *Syrup. Antihyſt.* ℥ij. *M. F. Julap. capiat* ℥ij. *quartâ quaq; horâ, inſtillando ſingulis Doſibus Laud. liq. Syd. gut.* xvj.

Anodyne Fomentations aſſiſt very much in procuring Eaſe when the Importunities of Pain are exquiſite.

℞. *Flor. Chamæm.* ℥iij. *Capit. Papav. alb.* ℥ij. *Coq. in Aq. & Vin. Maderenſ. ana.* ℔ij. *Colat. diſſolv. Opij.* ℥j.

The Julep above directed, or ſome other of the like Intention, muſt be continued till the Pain abate; and the Clyſter is to be repeated every Day if the Patient remain coſtive, which ſhe uſually does in this Condition.

In order to fortifie the Bowels and appeaſe the Orgaſm of the Spirits, the

Empl. Stomach. cum Galban. applied to the Navel may be of Service.

This is the Method I have experienced to be of the greateſt Advantage in alleviating the *colical Paroxyſm*, but as that has ſo immediate a Dependence upon the Original Diſtemper; the Means to be uſed in Relation to it are referred to the Chapter of *Hyſterick* and *Hypochrondriacal* Diſorders.

SECT. III.

Of the flatulent Colick.

THIS Species of the Diſeaſe is felt indifferently either in the Stomack or Inteſtines. It is attended with an uneaſy and painful Tenſion of the Stomach or that Part of the Bowels where it is lodged. The Patient feels a ſort of rumbling in his Guts, and is

much relieved by an Excluſion of the *Flatus* either *ſurſum* or *deorſum*. The Pain is not confined to any particular Place, but wanders from one Diviſion of the Bowels to another, till ſuch Time as the Vapour which is contained in them can obtain a Diſcharge.

Theſe *Vapours* generally ſpeaking owe their Origin to the too indiſcreet uſe of crude, ſtiptick, unripe Fruits, Meats of hard Digeſtion, *flatulent farinaceous Vegitables*, and windy, fermenting Liquors, eſpecially when the Stomach is weak and the concoctive Faculties debilitated.

There is another Kind of *flatulent Colick* occaſioned by the perſpirable Matter being detained between the Coats of the Bowels and other Integuments belonging to the *Abdomen*, which when rarified by the Heat of the Body and exerting its elaſtick Spring ſtretches and diſtends

diſtends the containing Membranes, and thereby cauſeth violent, fixt, and continued Pains in thoſe Parts.

This frequently happens upon catching Cold, and is the manifeſt Conſequence of an interrupted Perſpiration.

In this Caſe all thoſe Medicines are of Force which by their active Warmth and the Subtilty of their Particles are capable to attenuate the pent up Vapours to ſuch a degree as to render them perſpirable, and at the ſame time aſſiſt the *Fibres* in their tonick Action as to diſlodge them when thus attenuated.

And here the Diviſion of Medicines called Carminatives or Expellers of Wind have the greateſt Influence. The following Forms will be found efficacious.

℞. *Elect. Roriſmarin. Zinzib. condit. ana* ʒj. *Ol. Junip. gut.* xij. *Ol. Bacc. Lauri Gut.* x. *Syrup. è Cort. Citri q. s. ut F. Electuar. cujus capiat Quantitatem Nuc. Moſch. ter in Die.*

 ℞. *Rad.*

℞. *Rad. Angelic. pulv.* ʒj. *Ol. Cinnam. Nuc. Moſch. Garyoph. ana Gutt.* ij. *Ol. Menth. Abſynth. ana Gut.* j. *Sacch. alb.* ʒiv. *Mucilag. Gum. Tragacanth. q. s. ut F. Trochiſci ſæpius in Die devorand.*

After a Doſe or two of the Electuary, or ſome of the Troches have been taken, a Clyſter of the carminative Kind may be injected with good Succeſs.

℞. *Fol. Chamæmel. Mj. Bacc. Lauri. Junip. ana* ʒj. *Sem. Carui Aniſi ana* ʒß. *Sach. culinar. q. s. In Aq. Font. coq. & Colatur.* ʒx. *adde Ol. Aniſi* ʒj.

When the Pain is ſo acute as to overcome the Patience of the Perſon afflicted, ſome Relief may be expected from the following Fomentation.

℞. *Fol. Chamæm.* ʒij. *Bacc. Junip. Lauri ana* ʒj. *Coq. in Aq. & Vin. Maderenſ. ana* ℔ij. *addend. ſub Finem Coctionis Sem. Fœnic. Carui Aniſi Cumini ana* ʒß. *Colat. adde Sp. Vin.* ℔j.

After

After each Doſe of the *Electuary* or the Troches it will be proper for the Patient to drink a Draught of warm Juniper Tea, and to prevent a Return of the Diſorders, he may take every other Morning three or four Spoonfulls of *Elixir Salutis* for ten Days or a Fortnight following.

SECT. IV.

Of the nervous or convulſive Colick.

I AM now come to the laſt, moſt frequent and moſt fatal Species of this Diſtemper, and that is the nervous *Colick*, generally called by Phyſicians the *Colica Pictonum*, and by the People of *Barbadoes* the *dry Belly-Ach*. This is ſo popular a Diſeaſe in the *Leeward Iſlands* that it may very juſtly be reckoned as endemic in them, moſt People there at one time or other having felt its Cruelty.

There is not in the whole Compaſs of Infirmities which Fleſh is Heir to, any one that afflicts human Nature in a more exquiſite Degree than this unmerciful Torture. The Belly is ſeized with an intolerable piercing Pain, ſometimes in one Point only, and ſometimes in ſeveral Parts of the Inteſtines. In a ſhort time the Affliction becomes more diffuſive, and ſtretches it ſelf from the Point where it was firſt felt to a greater Diſtance, which is done in ſuch a manner that the *Fibres* of the Bowels ſeem to be contracted and drawn up from the *Anus* and the *Pilorus* towards the part primarily affected, as into the Center of Miſery: During this ſcene of the Diſtemper, which ſometimes continues eight ten, or fourteen Days, the Patient is upon a perpetual Rack, with ſcarce any Remiſſion or Pauſe from Pain. He undergoes all the various Modifications of Torment, and the *Dolor urens*,

lancinans,

lancinans, mordens, pungens, &c. by turns afflict him with a Diverſity of grievous *Senſations.* The Belly continues all this time obſtinately coſtive, very little Urine is made, the Strength is greatly impaired, the Habit exceedingly waſted, the extreme Parts are cold, and the Patient frequently falls into clammy Sweats and *Deliquia.* The *Pathemata* of the Mind are much diſordered, Grief, Anger, Rage and Deſpair uſurp the Place of Reaſon, the vital, natural and animal Functions are perverted, and the miſerable *Patient* at length ſinks under the Agony of his Affliction.

The chief Cauſes concurring to the Production of this *Colick* are immature, auſtere and aſtringent Fruits, eaten in too great Quantities, debauching in ſtrong Punch highly acidulated with the Juice of Lime, and travelling in the

Night

Night after too free Ingurgitation of ſpirituous Liquors.

When the Extremity of the Pain begins to abate, the ſick Perſon often obſerves a ſort of tingling Uneaſineſs thro' the ſpinal Marrow which propagates it ſelf from thence to the Nerves of the Arms and Legs, which at this time are very weak and debilitated. This Weakneſs and Inability encreaſes daily, till in a ſhort Time it terminates in a confirmed *Paralyſis* of the Extremities. The ſudden Tranſition from the *Colick* to a *Paralyſis* made Doctor *Willis* conjecture that the Nerves of the *Meſentery* were principally affected in this Diſeaſe, *Tranſitus a Colicâ ad Paralyſin indicio eſt Materiam morbificam non per Arterias ſed Nervos deferri, ejuſq; Sedem non eſſe Inteſtinorum Tunicas, ſed Meſenterii Plexus nerveos.*

In

In order to ſubdue this dire Diſtemper, and prevent the *Paralytick* Conſequences of it, we muſt employ our utmoſt Endeavours to remove the Conſtipation of the Bowels and ſolicit them to a Diſcharge. But this is not upon any Account to be attempted by ſtrong ſtimulating *Cathartick*s, which by their forcible and repeated Irritations would vellicate and contract the Fibres of the Guts, inrage the Pain, create convulſive Motions of the Bowels, haſten on the *Paralyſis*, or change the Diſeaſe into a *Miſerere Mei*. The mild lenitive detergent Purges are therefore to be relied on in this Exigency, and they ought to be given in liquid Forms, ſmall Quantities, moderately warm and frequently repeated till they ſlide thro' the Inteſtines and procure a Stool.

But it is almoſt impoſſible that this ſhould be effected ſo long as the Bowels continue under ſuch ſpaſmodical Diſ-

orders

orders as they are now in, we muſt therefore have a due regard to the mitigating this Inconveniency. There is not any Preparation of *Opium* ſo effectual in this Caſe as the Pil. *Matthæi*, which receive a prodigious Advantage from the aperient Quality of the *Sapo Tartareus*.

It has been a received Opinion that Opiates in this Diſtemper have often proved the Occaſion of the *paralytick* Conſequences which have enſued*; but I am fully convinced from undoubted Experience that this Obſervation is erroneous, having always found the deſired Succeſs from the Adminiſtration of them though given with a liberal Hand. However it may not be improper in theſe Caſes to add three or

* In colicâ pertinaci ſi ſudor copioſus & univerſalis ſuperveniat, labefactis & reſolutis viribus, brevi paralyſin expectato; cave igitur ne opiata copioſius in eâ exhibeas. *Baglivius.*

four

four Grains of *Caſtor* to each Doſe of the Pil. *Matthæi.*

The Method by which I have relieved many in this dreadful Diſtemper is as follows. As ſoon as I came to the Patient I ordered eight or ten Grains of the Pil. *Matthæi* to be given him, and about half an Hour after half an Ounce of *Manna*, two Drams of *Crem. Tart.* and one Ounce of ſolutive Syrup of Roſes in warm Water-Gruel; and this is to be repeated every three Hours, allowing four Grains of Pil. *Matthæi* to be adminiſtred in the Intervals. But if the great Propenſion to vomit ſhould render the Stomach incapable of retaining the laxative Draught ſo that no Operation is to be expected from it, then it will be neceſſary to appeaſe that Symptoms with the following or ſome other Mixture of the like Kind before we proceed any farther.

℞. *Sal. Abſynth.* ℈j. *Opij pur.* gr. j. *vel* j ß. *Aq. Menth. fort.* ʒj. *Syr. Limon. Cochl. j. M.*

A *Clyſter* is likewiſe to be injected once in four Hours: 'till the Body begins to be ſoluble. Theſe Clyſters ſhould always admit of Balſamicks in their Compoſition, and may be made in the following manner.

℞. *Decoct. commun.* ʒviij. *Balſam. Capiv. in. Vitel. Ov. ſolut.* ʒij. *Sapon. Tartar.* ʒj. *Ol. Aniſi.* ʒij. *M.*

In the mean time warm Fomentations are to be applied all over the Region of the *Abdomen* with Flannel Cloaths.

℞. *Flor. Chamæm.* ʒiij. *Bacc. Junip. Lauri ana* ʒj. *Coq. in Aq. Font.* ℔v. *ad* iij. *ſub finem addend. Sem. Carui Fœnic. Aniſi ana* ʒß. *Colat. diſſolv. Opij* ʒj. *Sp. Sacchari* ℔j.

A *Semi-*

A *Semicupium* or Bath made with the Leaves of Wild-Sage, Lavender, Roſemary, Chamomile, and other warm nervous *Plants* often help to alleviate the Pain and afford conſiderable Relief to the diſtreſſed Patient.

When the Pains begin to be mitigated and the Body is ſomewhat open, it will be time to proceed to Purges of greater Efficacy, and chiefly ſuch as are compoſed with a Mixture of *Mercurial* Preparations.

℞. *Calomel.* ℈j. *Pil. Coch. min.* ℈j. *Opobalſ. q. s. ut. F. Pil.* iv. *mane ſumend. & quotidie repetend. donec Dolor admodum remiſerit & Alvus ſolubilis evadat.*

Opiates may now be laid aſide, unleſs the Urgency of the Symptoms ſtill require the Continuance of them; or at leaſt their Quantity may be leſſened and in their ſtead the Patient is to take two Scruples of Balſam of *Peru* with Loaf Sugar, or in any other convenient

Form,

Form, every ſix Hours. This Medicine will rarely be found to fail when given at a proper time of the Diſeaſe and in a ſufficient Doſe, which has been too long neglected in Practice.

There is another Production of Nature which Providence has plentifully provided in this Iſland, I mean the *Piſſelæum Indicum* or the *Barbadoes Tar*, as it is commonly called. This indeed is not ſo elegant to the Taſte and Smell as the forementioned Balſam, but where the Stomach can comply with it, I am ſure it is of much greater Efficacy in this Diſtemper. I need not ſurely uſe many Arguments to prevail with any Perſon under theſe Circumſtances to diveſt himſelf of Prejudices to a Remedy which will ſo powerfully conduce to his Eaſe and Safety; for a Man muſt be ſtrangely Palate-ridden who will endure the higheſt Aggravations of Torture and run the Riſque of diſabled; uſueleſs

Limbs

Limbs for the Gratification of Taſte. I would therefore adviſe that two Drachms of this *Piſſelæum* be given three times a day, and continued till the Diſeaſe be totally vanquiſhed.

Upon the firſt Apprehenſion of the tingling Uneaſineſs along the ſpinal Marrow or the Numbneſs and Inability of the Limbs, the whole length of the *Vertebræ* as well as the Limbs ought to be well chafed with a Mixture of this Tar in double diſtilled Rum, which will (if any thing in Nature can) avert the impending *Paralyſis*.

This is the Method which I have ſucceſsfully uſed in a Malady which was generally attended with ſuch fatal Conſequences under a different Management, and I could not forbear making it publick for the Benefit of an Iſland which has lain me under the ſtrongeſt Obligations of Gratitude.

When the *Paralyſis* has been actually formed either from injudicious Treatment or the Violence of the Diſtemper, I have not been able to diſcover any Means effectual enough to remove it, unleſs the Patient would be prevailed upon to leave the Iſland and remove to *England*, where Bath-Waters taken inwardly, and applied to the affected Parts by Pumping, with other proper Remedies, have often perfected the *Cure*.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

Of a Diarrhœa.

THIS *Diſeaſe* is in ſome Meaſure the Reverſe of that laſt treated of, for as in the *nervous Colick* the Phyſician ought to imploy his utmoſt Endeavours to lubricate and open the Bowels, ſo in this he is to ſtrengthen and render them leſs ſlippery.

A *Diarrhœa* is a frequent and plentiful Diſcharge of thin, watery, mucous, ſlimy, frothy, greaſy, bilious or blackiſh Matter from the Inteſtines, ſometimes with and ſometimes without a Mixture of *Excrements*. It is frequently attended with *Gripings*, but they

are not eſſential to it. The Patient is weak, makes little Urine, has a depreſſed Pulſe, impaired Appetite, and is ſometimes feveriſh. All theſe Sorts of *Fluxes* are very endemic in the *Weſt-Indies*, but more eſpecially in the rainy Seaſons, and may be imputed chiefly to the Negligence of thoſe who too unwarily expoſe themſelves to the Injuries of the wet Weather, by which Means Perſpiration being interrupted, the thin Part of the Blood, which ſhould have been exhaled through the Pores of the Skin, is thrown upon the *Bowels*, and thence diſcharged in looſe Stools. This appears plainly from the great number of Negroes, and the poorer Sort of white People who in theſe *Seaſons* are much more afflicted with this *Diſtemper* than ſuch whoſe Condition of Life does not ſubject them to the like Inconveniences. Beſides catching *Cold*, there are other antecedent

Cauſes

Cauſes of a *Diarrhœa*, the principal of which are an immoderate Uſe of crude, fugacious Fruits, unwholeſom Food, and Meats of difficult Digeſtion; all which by ſtimulating the *Guts* will likewiſe occaſion a *Diarrhœa*.

When theſe laſt mentioned *Cauſes* concur with a damp, rainy Seaſon, the *Bowels* will not only be loaded with the thin Juices which ought to paſs off by Perſpiration, but they will alſo, by reaſon of the *Stimulus* lodged in them, be continually ſolicited to expel their Contents more frequently and of a thinner Conſiſtence than uſual. A diminiſhed *Perſpiration* will likewiſe contribute towards inlarging the Orifices of the Hepatic and Pancreatic Ducts, and on this Account the Secretions of their reſpective Juices will be more plentifully made into the Inteſtines; and hence we have an additional Cauſe of a *Looſneſs*. Theſe Circumſtances I

think are ſufficient to account for every Species of a *Diarrhœa*, and when we are once fully aſcertained of the *Cauſe*, we need not be much at a loſs what Method of *Cure* ought to be purſued in each Species.

Fluxes have very often been neglected in the beginning, from an Opinion that they are ſalubrious and of ſervice to the *Conſtitution* by affording an Outlet to ſome offending Matter, which if retained would have proved prejudicial *. This Remark of *Celſus* may in ſome Caſes be very true, but it is not to be confided in without great Caution in the *Weſt-Indies*, where a ſimple *Flux* frequently riſes up into an obſtinate *Dyſentery* in three or four Days, and when the *Diarrhœa* is ſuffered to continue any time, it too com-

* Sed uno die fluere alvum ſæpe pro valetudine eſt, atq; etiam pluribus, dum febris abſit, & intra ſeptimum diem id conquieſcat. Purgatur enim corpus, & quod intùs læſurum erat utilitèr effunditur, verùm ſpecium periculoſum eſt. *Celſ. Lib.* iv. cap. 19.

monly terminates in a *Leucophlegmatia* or *Dropſy*, to which Diſeaſes People in theſe Parts of the World are exceedingly diſpoſed, as has already been obſerved in the *Introduction*.

But as a *Diarrhœa* is ſometimes truly *critical* and contributes a great deal towards the Cure of other Diſtempers, ſuch a *Diarrhœa* ought by no means to be ſtopped, ſo long as the Strength of the Patient can ſupport him under it. The moſt general Rule I know in this *Caſe* (and the Deſign of this Treatiſe will not allow me Room to be particular) is to obſerve diligently whether the original *Diſeaſe* receives any conſiderable Abatement from the ſupervening *Looſneſs*, which if it does, we have then Reaſon to believe that the original *Diſeaſe* was occaſioned by the Retention of the Matter which is evacuated by the *Diarrhœa*, and therefore the *Diarrhœa* ought not to be checked.

It would lead me too far to conſider all the Circumſtances of a *Diarrhœa* in *Fevers*, as they are ſymptomatical or critical, having already hinted ſomething uſeful on that Occaſion in the Chapter upon *Fevers*. However it may not be amiſs to take notice that Doctor *Cockbourn* has juſtly obſerved that a *Fever* may be a Symptom of a *Diarrhœa*, as well as a *Diarrhœa* may be a Symptom of a *Fever*. It is now Time to proceed to the Cure.

In a *Diarrhœa* ariſing from ſharp fermenting Juices in *primis Viis*, which accelerate the periſtaltick Motion of the Bowels, the firſt Indication is to make a Diſcharge of the *ſtimulating Matter*, which may be effected by a Doſe or two of Rhubarb if timely adminiſtred in the following manner.

℞. *Rhei elect.* ʒß. *Cinnam. pulv.* gr. xij. *M. Cap. Mane cum Regimine. Vel,*

℞. *Tinct.*

℞. *Tinct. Rhei in Vin. Maderenſ. fact.* *Cochl.* iv. *Syrup. Roſar. ſolut.* ℥j. *M.*

Upon going to bed the Patient may take fifteen Drops of *Liquid Laudanum* in two or three Spoonfuls of Barley-Cinnamon Water, and the Rhubarb is to be repeated till the *Looſneſs* abate, which frequently happens after the ſecond Doſe.

But as the *Stomach* it ſelf is often in Fault by tranſmitting an ill-concocted Saburra to the Inteſtines, the Defects of this Organ are to be conſidered and amended. For this Purpoſe a Doſe of the Salt of Vitriol, or of Rad. Ipecac. may be adminiſtred, and when the Stomach has been cleanſed by this Operation, its Tone may be ſtrengthned and its Fibres fortified by ſome of the following Remedies.

℞. *Rad.*

℞. *Rad. Serpent. Virgin.* ʒij. *Gentian.* ʒß. *Cortic. Aurant.* ʒj. *Cort. Winteran. Galang. ana* ʒj. *F. Decoct. in Vin. Maderenſ.* ℔iij. *Cap. Cochl.* v. *vel* vj. *bis aut ter in die. Vel,*

℞. *Rad. Gentian. Calam. Aromat. ana* ʒij. *Summit. Centaur. Min. P.* ij. *Flor. Chamæm. P.* j. *Infund. calidè in Aq. Font.* ℔ij. *Colaturæ admiſce Aq. Gentian. comp.* ʒiv. *Vin. Chalyb.* ʒij. *bibat Cochl.* iv. *ter in Die.*

If the *Diarrhœa* continues to be violent, it will be proper to mix Aſtringents with the Rhubarb in a Bolus.

℞. *Rhei pulv.* ʒß. *cum s. q. Diaſcord. F. Bolus addend. Ol. Cinnam. Chym. gut.* ij.

When *Cold* is the productive Cauſe of a *Diarrhœa*, the Seat of this Diſeaſe is more remote than in the former Caſe, and the *Stools* are generally very thin, ſerous and watry. This Matter is conveyed into the Bowels by reaſon of the *inſenſible Perſpiration* being ſuppreſſed,

preſſed, ſome other of the *Secretions* interrupted, or the Blood having contracted an undue *Craſis*. If this be the Circumſtance of the Patient, we muſt endeavour in the firſt place to unload the *Stomach* and *Bowels* by evacuating the Glut of Humours forced upon them, which is to be performed by a Vomit with Ipecacuanha, and afterwards a Rhubarb Purge. But as this ſort of *Diarrhœa* is not uncommonly attended with a *Fever*, or at leaſt with feveriſh Symptoms, it is often found neceſſary to let Bleeding in the Arm precede the other two Operations, eſpecially if the Perſon be ſanguine and plethorick.

This being premiſed, we muſt have recourſe to *Diaphoreticks*, *Aſtringents*, *Agglutinants* and *Opiates*.

℞. *Decoct. Catechu. comp.* ℔j. *Spec. Confect. de Hyacint.* ʒß. *M. Capiat Cochl.* iij. *poſt ſingulas Sedes. Vel,*

℞. *Decoct.*

℞. *Decoct. Fracaſt.* ℔j. *Sang. Dracon.* ʒß. *Gum. Arab.* ʒij. *M. bibat Cochl.* iij. *vel.* iv. *pro re nata. Vel,*

℞. *Diaſcord. Fracaſt.* ʒiß. *Syr. Reſtring.* (*Vid Quincey*) ʒj. *Aq. Cinnam. hord.* ʒiij. *M. pro Hauſtu. Vel,*

℞. *Confect. Fracaſt.* ℈ij. *Gum. Arab. pulv.* ℈j. *Syr. e Cort. Citri q. s. ut F. Bolus, quartâ quaq; horâ ſumend. ſuperbibend. Cochl. aliquot Julap. ſeq.*

℞. *Aq. Cinnam. Hord.* ʒvj. *Menth.* ʒij. *Syr. è Cort. Citri* ʒij.

The Patient may uſe for his common Drink the *Decoct. alb.* with a Diſſolution of Gum Arabick, Rice boiled in Water with a little Cinnamon, or a Decoction of the *Cort. Granat.* and any of theſe may be made palatable with the Syrup *è Cort. Citri.* Hartſhorn and Calve's Foot Jelley are of Service.

At bed-time one of the following Boluſſes may be adminiſtred.

℞. *Theriac.*

℞. *Theriac. Ven.* ʒß. *Catechu.* ℈j. *Laudan. Lond.* gr. j. *vel* jß. *Diacod. q. s. ut F. Bolus. Vel,*

℞. *Diascord. sine Melle* ʒj. *Rad. Serpent. Croci ana* gr. vj. *Laudan. Lond.* gr. j. *Syr. de Mecon. q. s.*

These Medicines are given in order to promote the *Perspiration*, that the detained *Matter* may gain a Vent thro' the proper Emunctories, and not be forced inwards upon the Bowels for want of a natural and appropriated *Evacuation*. For this Reason a Decoction of Sassafras, Guaiacum, Juniper Berries, Chamomile Flowers and such like, gratefully contrived, may contribute more towards the Cure of this *Diarrhœa*, if taken as common Drink, than any of the Preparations before mentioned for that Purpose.

Sometimes the *Looseness* is so obstinate and untractable as not to yield to

these

theſe Endeavours, and the Patient after ſome Continuance in this Courſe begins to loath and abſolutely renounce his Medicines. We muſt then apply to *Clyſters* as our Sheet Anchor. The following Forms may ſerve as Specimens of their Compoſition.

℞. *Decoct. commun. pro Clyſt.* ℥viij. *Bacc. Junip.* ℥ij. *Terebinth. in Vitel. Ov. ſolut.* ℥ß. *F. Enema. Vel,*

℞. *Diaſcord.* ℥ß. *Theriac. Androm.* ʒij. *Coq. in Lact. Vaccin. q. s. Colat.* ℥viij. *injiciantur & repet. quoties res urgeat.*

It is to be obſerved that theſe *Clyſters* muſt be injected in ſmall Quantities, and are to be retained as long as poſſible by the Patient. I would not be underſtood to mean that *Clyſters* are only to be uſed when the Sick rejects other Remedies, for they are of Service in every Stage of this *Diſeaſe*, but more immediately neceſſary in this.

There

There are ſeveral external Applications to the Region of the Belly which are greatly applauded by Authors of good Credit, and as I my ſelf have found conſiderable Aſſiſtance from them I ſhall ſubjoin three different Forms.

℞. *Sp. Vin. Camphorat.* ʒiv. *Theriac. Androm.* ʒij. *Ol. Garyoph. gut.* xx. *Ol. Aniſ. Abſynth. ana gut.* vj. *M. F. Epithema.*

℞. *Theriac. Ven.* ʒß. *Cinnam. Garyoph. pulv. ana* ʒj. *Ol. Cinnam. Menth. ana gut.* viij. *Acet. Roſat. q. s. ut F. Cataplaſm.*

℞. *Mithrid. vet.* ʒj. *Nuc. Moſchat. Cinnam. ana* ʒj. *Pulv. Maſtich. q. s. ut F. Emplaſt. extend. ſuper alutam, cujus Margini illinatur pauxillum Emplaſt. adhæſivi.*

Thoſe who are ſubject to an habitual *Looſneſs* may receive great Benefit by wearing Flannel, and by keeping their Bodies warm*.

* Vid. *Wainwright*'s Non-nat. *pag.* 144.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

Of a Dyſentery.

I HAVE been ſo particular in the laſt Chapter relating to a *Diarrhœa* that I ſhall be leſs prolix in this of the *Dyſentery*, there being ſeveral Circumſtances as to the Cauſes, Symptoms, and Method of Cure, which are applicable to both, and on this Account we find not a little Confuſion among the *Ancients* as well as the *Moderns* in fixing the Boundaries and adjuſting the eſſential Symptoms of theſe two *Diſeaſes*.

The moſt ſimple and the fulleſt Definition I can give of a *Dyſentery* is what follows. A *Dyſentery* is a frequent

Diſ-

Diſcharge from the Bowels of Blood mixed with Slime, ichorous Matter, liquid Excrements, skinny Slough, and ſometimes a fleſhy Subſtance reſembling the inner Coat of the Inteſtines. This *Bloody Flux* is conſtantly accompanied with a ſevere griping Pain in the Guts, which Symptom was ſo conſiderable with *Celſus*, that from thence he did not ſcruple to tranſlate the Word δυσεντερία *tormina*.

The *Cauſes* of a *Dyſentery* mentioned by *Hippocrates* are chiefly theſe. *Firſt*, A *Diarrhœa**. This Cauſe has come under every one's Notice who has been converſant with this Diſtemper in the *Weſt-Indies*, for the Matter of a *Diarrhœa* in thoſe Parts is frequently ſo ſharp and corroſive as not only to carry off the mucous of the Inteſtines, but alſo in a few Days to abrade and tear away their villous Coat, and ex-

* Ex alvi profluvio inteſtinorum difficultas δυσεντερίης *Aph. Lib.* vii. cap. 77.

coriate the Mouths of the Blood-Veſſels. The *ſtimulating Matter* ſtill remaining, the *Flux* is continued, and the Orifices of the Blood-Veſſels being opened at the ſame time, the *Flux* muſt unavoidably become a Bloody-Flux. *Secondly, Sultry Weather.* In what manner the Air of the *Weſt-Indies* promotes this Diſtemper has been explained in the Introduction, as far as the Brevity of this Treatiſe will admit of. *Thirdly, Hot Spirituous Liquors.* Theſe as well as acrid pungent Food are capable of producing a *Diarrhœa*, and as they greatly rarify the Blood, this Rarifaction ſuperadded to the *Looſneſs*, gives us a ſatisfactory Idea of their being the Cauſe of a *Dyſentery*. This is confirmed by obſerving how much this Diſeaſe rages among the White Servants as well as the Negroes in our Plantations, which ſort of People are much addicted to debauch in Spirits,

and

and Punch made exceeding ſtrong with new Rum, very acid with *Juice of Limes*, and very fermentative with coarſe *Sugar*. *Fourthly*, A ſtoppage of the *Monthly Courſes* in Women. When the Menſtrual Flux is by any Accident obſtructed before the natural Time the Body muſt become plethorick, and the Blood will be ſent out by ſome other Outlet, but why this ſhould occaſion a *Dyſentery* (which always includes liquid Stools mixed with the Blood) rather than a *Hæmorrhage* of pure Blood, either from the Noſe, Hæmorrhoidal, or ſome other Veſſels, I confeſs I do not clearly apprehend, unleſs a *Diarrhœa* has preceded it. The ceaſing of the *bloody Piles*, and the loſs of a *Limb*, which are aſſigned as Cauſes of a *Dyſentery*, ſeem to me to labour under the ſame Difficulty of Explanation. But to come to the Cure.

The almoſt unanimous Conſent of *Phyſicians*, as well as Proofs drawn from Practice, have ſo fully demonſtrated the Benefit, received from *Blood-letting*, that I need only mention it to remind *Practitioners* of the Neceſſity there is not to omit it in the Beginning of a *Dyſentery*.

The *Indian* Root, or *Ipecacuanha* * has juſtly eſtabliſhed its Reputation in the Cure of this Diſtemper, both in thoſe Parts of the World from whence it was originally brought, where *Fluxes* are endemic †, and in all other Places where it has been uſed on thoſe Occaſions. But perhaps the Reaſon why it is found to be ſuperior to the reſt of the emetick Tribe, was not at all conſidered before the learned and judicious Dr.

* Si quando evacuationibus locus, radicem vomitivam Ipecacuanha, exquiſitiſſimum naturæ munus, cæteris remediis præferre conducit. *Piſo* pag. 39.

† Affectus dyſentericus nimirum his terris eſt familiaris, ita ut perpetuò nobis ſporadica & popularis. *ibid.*

Friend gave us an Inſight into that Matter *, unleſs we except one Paſſage in *Piſo* †. If the *Ipecacuanha* does not only exert its emetick Faculty, but likewiſe paſſeth through the Bowels in ſuch manner as to promote a Stool or two, which often happens, it will be ſufficient that Night to give the Patient a Bolus made with Rhubarb and Diaſcordium; but if we obſerve no ſuch Effect from the *Vomit*, then let him take half a Drachm of Rhubarb in any convenient Vehicle in order to carry off any Remains of the ſtimulating Matter which

* Radix Ipecacuanha, præter vim vomitoriam, quam obtinet uberrimum ſudorem excitare ſolet. Atq; in hoc, quantum ego conjecturâ aſſequi poſſum præcipuè conſiſtit ægregia illa in Dyſentericis affectibus virtus, quam ſibi præ aliis vomendi inſtrumentis vendicat. *Freind Comment. de Feb.* Pag. 40.

† Ad radicem Ipecacuanha confugiendum, tanquam ad ſacram anchoram, qua nullum præſtantiùs aut tutiùs, tum in hoc, tùm in pleriſq; aliis, cum vel ſine ſanguine, fluxibus compeſcendis, natura excogitavit remedium. Quippe præterquam quod tuto & efficaciter tenaciſſimos quoſque humores per ipſam alvum, ſæpiſſime autem per vomitum ejiciat, & a parte affectâ derivet, vim quoque aſtrictivam poſt ſe relinquit. *Piſo*.

may adhere to the Guts, for I have had too many Occaſions to remark the ill Conſequences of giving *aſtringent* Medicines in the Infancy of this Diſeaſe, when the *Flux of Blood* has not been immoderate; and it ought to be remembred that a *Dyſentery* is ſometimes critical as well as a *Diarrhœa*.

After the *Bowels* have been prepared in this manner we may ſafely have recourſe to Balſamicks, Agglutinants, Aſtringents and Opiates, which muſt be contrived in Proportion to the Neceſſity of the Patient, the Violence of the Flux, and the length of its Duration. I ſhall now ſubjoin ſome of the moſt efficacious Preſcriptions for this Purpoſe.

℞. *Conſerv. Roſar. rub.* ℥j. *Sem. Plant. ag. toſt.* ℥ß. *Corn. Cerv. uſt. Croc. Mart. aſtring. Catechu. ana* ʒj. *Syr. Citri q. s. ut fiat Electuar. capiat quant. Nuc. Moſch. tertiâ quaq; horâ ſuperbibend. Cochl.* iv. *Julap. ſeq.*

℞. *Aq.*

℞. *Aq. Cinnam. hord.* ʒvj. *Aq. Roſ. rub.* ʒiv. *Aq. Cinnam. fort.* ʒij. *Syr. è Cort. Citri* ʒij. *M. Vel,*

℞. *Corn. Cerv. uſt. Rad. Tormentil. ana* ʒß. *Ter. Sigill. Bol. Armen. Lap. Hæmat. ana* ʒj. *Maſtich. Gum. Tragac. ana* ʒij. *M. F. Pulv. doſ.* ʒß. *ter vel quater in Die.*

The following Electuary in my Opinion (and it is founded upon repeated Trials I have made) deſerves as great Encomiums as any can be contrived in this Caſe.

℞. *Conſerv. Roſ. rub.* ʒiß. *Sperm. Ceti* ʒj. *Ceri flav.* ʒiij. *Ol. Amygd. dulc.* ʒß. *Syr. e Cort. Citri q. s. ut F. Electuar. pro re natâ uſurpand.*

Other Forms ſet down in the foregoing Chapter may be of Service as Occaſion requires. The ſame may be ſaid of Clyſters, for which reaſon I ſhall only add one more, which may be uſed when the *Bowels* ſeem to be much excoriated.

℞. *Juſcul. ex Capit. Ov.* ℥x. *Vitel. Ov.* N°. ij. *Balſam. Lucatell.* ℥j. *Diaſcord.* ℥ß.

This will prove very *balſamick* and uſeful to the Guts which are wounded and tore with the Diſtemper; but if you would make it more aſtringent you may add to it *Sang. Dracon. Terr. Japan.* or *Cort. Granat.*

To prevent the *Dyſentery* from proving troubleſome in the Night, an *Opiate* muſt be given when the Patient goes to bed, and this is beſt done in a ſolid Form.

If the Sick be much debilitated by the Continuance of the Diſtemper and the great Effuſion of Blood, a *Cordial Draught* may be allowed him to ſupport and invigorate the languid Spirits, ſuch as *Claret* or *Madera Wine* burnt with Spices, or ſtrong Cinnamon Water diluted with the white Decoction.

The

The *Food* ſhould be cooling, mucilaginous and aſtringent, as in a *Diarrhœa*. Panado made with *Caſada Bread* is with very good reaſon commended by *Piſo*, who adviſeth it not only as a cooling healing Diet, but as a uſeful Ingredient in the Compoſition of *Clyſters*. The ſame Author recommends the Jelly of white and red *Guavas*, *Granadillo*, *Hog Plum*, *&c.* as proper Nouriſhment. I mention theſe becauſe they are always at Hand in *Barbadoes*. Unripe *Plantains* and *Bananoes* roaſted are alſo proper for theſe Patients, but above all a Milk Diet.

I cannot conclude this Chapter more uſefully than by given the eſſential Differences by which a *Dyſentery* may be diſtinguiſhed from two other Diſeaſes of the Guts, in which Blood is voided, and with which it is frequently confounded. Theſe I ſhall beg leave to bor-

borrow from Doctor *Cockbourn*'s book of *Fluxes*, wherein these Symptoms (which are of no small Consequence in directing us to a right Method of Cure) are accurately delineated. *First*, We may know a Dysentery from a Tenesmus by the following Marks. '*The Blood in* '*a Tenesmus is in a very inconsiderable* '*Quantity, and the Stools are never li-* '*quid in that Disease.* Pag. 251. But they are always liquid in the former Case, a Dysentery being really a bloody Diarrhœa, or a Flux with Blood. *Secondly*, We may distinguish a Dysentery from the Piles or Hæmorrhoides, '*Because the Blood in a Dysentery is* '*mixed with liquid Excrements*; *so Blood* '*coming from a Person at Stool, which* '*is not mixed with the Excrements, is* '*not a Dysentery, but flows lower than* '*the peristaltick Motion of the Guts has* '*any Power*; *and Blood thus voided is*

'*from*

from the Hæmorrhoidal Veſſels, and is the Hæmorrhoides or Piles. This Blood is always to be ſeen, ſometimes under the Excrements, and then the Blood precedes them; but moſt commonly the Blood falls of one ſide, or lies a top of the Excrements, in this Caſe the Blood flows along with the Excrements, or flows longer than we go to Stool. Pag. 256.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Of a Dropſy.

THE *Dropſy* is ſo frequent to be met with in the *Weſt-Indies* that it juſtly demands a Place in this Treatiſe. It is divided into three Species, *viz.* the *Anaſarca*, *Aſcites*, and *Tympanites*.

In the *Anaſarca* not only the Belly but every part of the Body is ſwelled, and when preſſed with the Finger the Mark or Impreſſion will remain for ſome Time, eſpecially toward Night, but not ſo long as in a *Leucophlegmatia*. The Colour of the Skin is pale and cadaverous, the Fleſh is ſoft and flabby, the Urine is at firſt high coloured, but

after-

afterwards becomes thin and white, the Breathing difficult, the Appetite diminiſhed, no great Thirſt in the Beginning, tho' ſometimes a ſlow Fever accompanies it when the Diſtemper is advanced.

In an *Aſcites* the watry Humour is either in the Cavity of the Abdomen, the Duplicature of the Peritonæum, or in the dilated and obſtructed Lymphe-ducts. When it is in the Cavity of the *Abdomen*, it is known by the Bulk of the Belly, which being preſſed with your Hand you may obſerve the Noiſe of fluctuating Water, and when the Patient turns himſelf, he perceives the Weight of the Water fall to that ſide on which he lies. The *Thighs* and *Scrotum* ſwell, the upper Parts become lean and emaciated in Proportion as the ſwelling of the Belly, &c. encreaſes. The *Urine* is made in ſmall Quantity, thick and red. In the Progreſs there is a Difficulty

ficulty of Breathing, Loſs of Appetite, exceſſive Thirſt, Coſtiveneſs, little Sweat, and a ſlow continual *Fever*.

Authors tell us that a *Tympanites* is a flatulent Diſtention of the Belly which when ſtruck will ſound like a Drum. They likewiſe ſay that it is preceded by Griping Pains about the Belly and Loins, and that the Swelling does not fall to one Side when the Perſon turns himſelf. They call it *Hydrops ſicca*, and pretend that it very often terminates in an *Aſcites*. But this I believe is merely imaginary, for although large Quantities of Vapours may be collected in the Cavity of the Inteſtines in ſuch a manner as to diſtend them to a great Degree and by that means occaſion a windy or flatulent Colick, yet it is very difficult to conceive how ſuch Vapours ſhould be lodged between the Duplicature of the Peritonæum, the Interſtices of the Muſcles, or the Cavity

of

of the Abdomen in a ſufficient Quantity to create this *Drumlike Sound* and Diſtention.

The *antecedent* Cauſes of a *Dropſy* are cold, moiſt, acrid, fermenting, tenacious and indigeſtible *Food*; an immoderate uſe of ſpirituous *Liquors*; a moiſt damp *Air*; Suppreſſion of the *Menſes*, *Hæmorrhoides*, *Urine* and *Perſpiration*; Obſtructions and cold or ſchirrhous Tumors of the *Viſcera*; copious *Hæmorrhages*; long and great Evacuations of other *Humours*; acute burning *Fevers*; long and ſevere *Quartans*; *Jaundice*, *Diarrhœa*, *Dyſenteries*, *&c.* all which occaſion the Blood to become viſcid and the Fibres lax.

As this Diſtemper is more frequent in the *Weſt-Indies* than in *Europe*, ſo likewiſe generally ſpeaking it more eaſily admits of a Cure, though there is not any Diſeaſe more ſubject to return, if

the Patient be not very cautious in his way of living, after Recovery.

The curative Indications in an *Anasarca*, as well as in an *Ascites*, are to restore the Humours to their natural Fluidity, to invigorate the languid Circulation, to brace up and strengthen the relaxed Solids, to promote the Secretions, and carry off the redundant stagnating *Juices*. Strong drastick *Purges*, *Steel* Medicines, *Absorbents*, *Detergents*, and *Stomachicks* are best suited to answer these Intentions, and they may be given in the following Order. The first thing to be done is to evacuate the serous Humors by any of these Cathartick.

℞. *Crem. Tart.* ℥ß. *Mechoacan. Jalap.* *ana* ʒiij. *Sem. Ebuli.* ʒß. *Gut. Gamb.* ℈iv. *Nuc. Mosc.* ʒj. *M. F. Pulv. dos.* ℈ij. *vel* ʒj. *ex Vin. alb. hauriend. Vel,*

℞. *Syr. Rhamn. Cathart.* ℥j. *Rhei opt.* ʒß. *Aq. Raphani* ʒj. *M. F. Haust. Vel,*

℞. *Aloes*

℞. *Aloes opt.* ʒij. *Gum. Ammon. in Acet. ſolut. Myrrhæ elect. & Croc. Mart. cum Sulph. parat. ana* ʒiß. *Diagryd. & Troch. Alhand. ana* gr. xl. *cum Oxymel. ſcillit. q. s. F. Maſ. Pil. de qua capiat* ʒß. *bis vel ter in ſeptimana ſi vires ſufficiant.*

In weak Conſtitutions the ſtronger *Purges* may not be ſafe, in ſuch Caſes therefore we muſt be content with giving *Rhubarb* in Powder. *Elaterium* is an excellent Purge in this Diſtemper, when the Patient is ſtrong enough to bear a ſufficient Doſe of it. This Courſe is to be continued till ſuch Time as the Water is diſcharged and the Swellings ſubſide, and then it will be proper to enter upon the alterative and ſtrenghtning Method. It is Doctor *Sydenham's* Advice, (and it ought conſtantly to be obſerved) that when we are once engaged in the Uſe of corroborating Medicines, all Purgatives muſt be totally

laid aſide*, for it is impoſſible to ſatisfie both theſe *Intentions* at the ſame Time.

Let us now proceed to ſuch Forms as may be proper on this Occaſion. *Sudoriſicks* are good in all *Dropſies*, but more eſpecially in the *Anaſarca*. Such are the Lign. Guaiac. Juniper Berries, Saſſafras, *&c.* which may prove more effectual if a Decoction of them be made in Lime-Water. *Lixivial Salts* are of great Service, as they prove *diuretick*, which they rarely fail to do unleſs there be Obſtructions in *primis Viis*.

℞. *Ciner. Geniſt. ad Albed. calcinat.* ℥iv. *ponantur in Lagenâ vitreâ, digerantur calide & clauſe per hor. tres vel quatuor, deinde detur Vinum Doſ. Cochl.* vj. *vel* viij. *bis in die. Vel,*

* At vero præ cæteris ſeriò animadvertendum eſt, quod quoties hunc morbum ſolis corroborantibus vel etiam lixivialibus aggredimur, æger nullo modo expurgandus eſt. *Sydenham.*

℞. *Ciner.*

℞. *Ciner. Geniſt.* ℔j. *Fol. Abſynth. Mi. Vin. Rhenan.* ℔iv. *infund. frigide. Doſ.* ℥iv. *Mane, hora quarta Pomerid. & ſerò. Vel,*

℞. *Ciner. Geniſtæ* ℥ß. *Antihect. Poterii* ʒij. *M. F. Pulv. cap.* ℈ij. *ter in die ex Hauſt. Theæ.*

Preparations of *Steel* are very efficacious on account of their accelerating the Motion of the Blood, and as they give an Elaſticity to the Fibres.

℞. *Limatur. Ferri* ℥ij. *Cortic. Peruv.* ℥iv. *Rad. Rhei exſiccat.* ℥ß. *Vini Rhenan.* ℔ij.

The following Preſcriptions may likewiſe be of Uſe in theſe Caſes.

℞. *Milleped. Viv. Tinct. Sal. Tart. ana* ℥ij. *contund. & fortiter exprime Doſ. gutt.* xl. *vel* l. *ex Aq. Raphani comp.*

℞. *Conſerv. Flor. Roriſmarin.* ℥j. *Abſynth. Rom.* ℥ß. *Elect. è Bacc. Lauri* ʒij.

Elleb. nigr. pulv. Pyrethri ana ʒij. *Sal. Succin.* ʒj. *Croci* ϑij. *Gum. Ammon. in Tinct. Caſt. ſolut.* ʒj. *Syr. è* v. *Rad. aper. q. s. ut F. Electuar. capiat Quant. Nuc. Moſch. ter in Die.*

This Method will ſeldom fail in a recent *Dropſy*, and when the Viſcera are unſound, lacerated or ſphacelated no Method whatever will take Place. *Gul. Piſo* cautioneth us againſt giving Purges in the *Weſt-Indies* for a Dropſy*, but I declare that I have never met with any ſuch ill Effects from them. There is another Obſervation of the ſame Author, which as it is curious I ſhall inſert it. *In Cadaverum diſſectione*, *eorum imprimis qui ex* Anaſarcâ *aut* Aſcite *interierant*, *quandoq*; Hepar *colore albicante*, *Rimiſq; fatiſcens reperi*, *ne veſtigio quidem Sanguinis apparente*. Piſo *pag.* 33. No one I be-

* Alvus arte liberaliter mota, merito in Indiis ſuſpicionis plena habetur, quod in diuturnum imo lethiterum profluvium non raro degeneret. *Piſo*. Pag. 33.

lieve will diſpute whether a Dropſy under theſe Circumſtances is curable.

As to the *Regimen* of the Patient, he ought to be very temperate, his *Food* muſt be of the drying kind, *Caſada Bread*, unripe *Plantains* roaſted, *Yams*, *Eddies*, and *Barbadoes Potatoes* are proper. He is to abſtain as much as poſſible from all Liquids, his *Drink* muſt be old *Madera Wine* and other warm Stomach Wines. There are Inſtances of ſome People who have perfectly recovered themſelves from a deplorable *Dropſy* by an obſtinate and reſolute Forbearance of all *Liquors* whatſoever, without any other Aſſiſtance.

Sometimes external Applications are made uſe of with Advantage.

℞. *Sapon. Venet.* ʒiv. *Sp. Vin. theriacal.* ʒxij. *M. accurate pro Fomento, regioni Abdominis cum laneis pannis applicand.*

The Empl. Diaſapon may be applied to the Legs and Thighs in an *Anaſarca*, as likewiſe the following Cataplaſm.

℞. *Sterc. Vaccin. recent.* ℔j. *Rad. Bryon. alb.* ℔ß. *Bacc. Lauri Pul.* ʒiv. *Sem. Cumini, Flor. Sulph. ana* ʒij. *Sevi Porcin.* ʒiij. *cum Fæc. Vin. F. S. A. Cataplaſm. applicetur Femoribus & Cruribus affectis.*

Bandages, *Laced Stockings*, and ſuch like, may help to fortifie the Parts, and prevent the Flux of Humours from lodging upon them, but this is never to be attempted before a thorow Evacuation of the Humours has been made, and then theſe Applications may deſervedly be allowed a Place among the other *Corroboratives*. If we begin with them ſooner, we run a great Riſque of repelling the *Juices* upon ſome of the nobler Viſcera, by which means the Life of the Patient will be very much endangered.

Veſi-

Veſicatories, *Scarifications* and *Cauteries* require great Care and Circumſpection; for although they may prove of good Service when judiciouſly uſed, yet they have been known to induce a Mortification and Gangreen upon the Part, when the Blood is in this impoveriſhed Condition, the Circulation very languid, and the Fibres ſo much debilitated. They ought not therefore to be truſted in all Hands.

The *Paracentheſis* or Operation of Tapping now remains to be conſidered. How frightful ſoever this Undertaking may appear in *Europe*, yet it is practiſed almoſt every Day in *Barbadoes* with good Succeſs, of which I could produce innumerable Examples. I ſhall only adviſe the *Surgeons*, when they perform this *Operation*, to take away a leſs *Quantity* of Water each Time, and perſiſt longer in the Uſe of *corroborating* Remedies than they uſually do.

It is certain that in a beginning *Dropſy* nothing conduceth more towards a Recovery than *Exerciſe* and Change of *Air*, no kind of Exerciſe more than *Sailing*, and no *Air* more than the *Sea Air*. Let me therefore exhort all ſuch whoſe Circumſtances will admit of it, to leave the *Iſland* upon the firſt Approach of this *Diſtemper*, and remove, for ſome Time, to *England*.

CHAP.

CHAP. VI.

Of the Jaundice.

THE *Jaundice* is a Diſeaſe which manifeſtly diſcovers it ſelf by the *Yellow Tincture* of the Skin, but moſt diſtinctly in the Coats of the Eyes, where it gives the firſt Notice of its Invaſion. The *Symptoms* with which it is attended, are a Heavineſs, Inactivity, Laſſitude of the whole Body, Anxiety, Uneaſineſs about the Hypochondria, Sickneſs at the Stomach, Oppreſſion in the Breaſt, difficult Reſpiration, a dry and harſh Skin, Coſtiveneſs, hard and white Excrements, yellow high coloured Urine, which will tincture Linen or Paper with a Saffron Hew, a bitter

Taſte

Taſte in the Mouth, and a Diſcoloura-tion of Objects before the Eyes.

The immediate *Cauſe* of a *Jaundice* is an obſtructed Excretion of the *Bile* from the Veſica Fellis and Liver, into the Duodenum, on which account, when collected in its Paſſage thither to a ſufficient Quantity it muſt be forced back upon the *Liver*, where mixing with the Blood, it will unavoidably be carried along with that Fluid by means of the Circulation through the whole Body, and conſequently the Skin and Urine will be infected with the native *Tincture* of the *Bile*.

This Obſtruction may be occaſioned by any Thing either lodged in the Ducts which ſhould convey the *Bile* to the fore-mentioned Inteſtine, ſo as to clog up the Paſſages; by any external Preſſure which is able to cloſe the Mouths of thoſe Ducts, or laſtly by any ſpaſmodical Con-traction of the Fibres of the Ducts them-

ſelves. And hence we may conceive why the *Jaundice* ſo often ſucceeds the *Colick*, by reaſon of the flatulent Diſtention of the *Duodenum*, which compreſſeth the Ductus communis, why Women very big with Child are liable to this Diſtemper, as well as in what manner Spaſms in the Hyſteric Colick produce the ſame Icterical Effects.

To the better underſtanding the Nature of this *Diſtemper*, and that I may give a more clear Idea how its *Symptoms* are produced, it will be neceſſary to premiſe ſomething in relation to the Qualities of the *Bile*, and to obſerve wherein it contributes to the Uſes of the Animal Oeconomy.

The *Bile* is a yellow, thickiſh, bitter Juice ſeparated from the Blood in the *Liver*, and from thence conveyed by the *common Duct* into the Duodenum, where it is generally found, as alſo in the Stomach of ſuch as are *faſting*.

There

There are two Sorts of it, one which is diſcharged from the Glands of the *Liver* into the *Porus Bilarius*; this is thinner, leſs ſtimulating and of a more greeniſh Caſt than the other, which is ſeparated from the *Liver* into the *Gall Bladder* by its own proper *Ducts*: This is more bitter, more acrimonious, more thick, and of a deeper brighter yellow than the former.

The great Uſes of the *Bile* are chiefly theſe. *Firſt*, by ſtimulating the nervous and villous Coats of the *Stomach* when empty, it will excite a Senſe of *Hunger*, as we find thoſe Animals moſt voracious, which abound moſt with *Bile*; for which reaſon a want of Appetite, Nauſeouſneſs, Sickneſs at the Stomach, *&c.* will enſue upon a Deficiency of it in that Organ.

Secondly, to divide and attenuate the *Chyle* together with which it is propelled into the *Duodenum*, and with which it

is

is intimately mixed by the contractile Motion of the Inteſtines, and the reciprocal Action of the Abdominal Muſcles and Diaphragm. Thus we find the *Milk*, in the three firſt *Stomachs* of young Calves, hard and curdled, but in the fourth *Ventricle*, where it is mixed with the *Bile*, it becomes thin and fluid. Hence a Defect of the *Bile* in the *Inteſtines* will occaſion all the ill Conſequences of a vitiated Digeſtion and a thick uncomminuted *Chyle*, ſuch as Heavineſs, Inactivity, Laſſitude, Anxiety, *&c.*

Thirdly, By its *ſaponacious* Quality it proves the grand Agent in mixing and uniting the heterogeneous parts of our *Aliment* into an uniform maſs, by which means the *aqueous* Particles are brought into Union with the *oily*, which would otherwiſe ſeparate from them, and either become rancid if detained in the *Stomach*, or elſe upon account of their Groſſneſs would be denied a Paſſage

into

into the *Lacteals* when tranſmitted down to the Inteſtines. Hence likewiſe it appears that great Inconveniencies muſt follow from a Defect of the *Bile*.

Fourthly, As the *Bile* is of a very abſterſive Nature, it greatly aſſiſts in removing any ſlimy or glutinous Matter which might adhere to and choak up the Mouths of the *Lacteal Veſſels*, and deprive the Body of its neceſſary Supply from Nutrition.

Laſtly, By its *ſtimulating* Faculty it conduceth very much in promoting the periſtaltick Motion of the *Bowels*, and excluding the *Fæces*, ſo that it is obvious why the *Stools* ſhould become hard and white when the *Bile* is denied an Entrance into the Inteſtines.

This ſhort Account of the Nature and Uſe of the *Bile* may afford us a competent Rationale of the *Jaundice*, and all its concomitant *Symptoms*, and ſuggeſt to us pertinent Hints in order to the

Cure,

Cure, which is to be effected by such Means as are capable to remove the Obſtacle which prevents the *Bile* from flowing through its proper Canals into the *Duodenum*.

We are therefore to begin with *Emeticks*, which by the Agitations and Concuſſions they produce in the Muſcles of the Abdomen, Diaphragm and the whole Region of the Belly, muſt greatly affect the *Viſcera* contained therein, and will very eminently contribute to ſhake off and diſlodge any Impediment in the *Bilious Paſſages*, as is evident from the Quantity of *Bile* which is generally pumped up in the Operation of a *Vomit*, eſpecially towards the latter end of its Working.

℞. *Infuſ. Croc. Metal* ʒß. *Vin. Scill.* ʒj. *Oxymell. Simpl.* ʒß. *M. F. Hauſt. Vel,*

℞. *Rad. Ipecacuan. pulv.* ʒß. *Syrup. Violar.* ʒj. *Aq. Lact. Alex.* ʒij. *M. Vel,*

℞. *Tart.*

℞. *Tart. Emet.* gr. vj. *Oxymel. Scill.* ʒß. *Aq. Lact. Alex.* ʒij. *M.*

After the *Vomit* has been exhibited, and (if the Occaſion requires it) once or twice repeated, *Purgatives* may take Place, for it is not to be doubted that they frequently encreaſe the Secretions of the *Liver*, and procure plentiful Diſcharges from that *Viſcus* by Mediation of the *Ductus Choledochus.*

℞. *Rhei opt. pulv.* ʒß. *Chryſtall. Tart.* ʒj. *Aq. Cinnam. Hord.* ʒiij. *Syrup. Chicor. cum Rheo* ʒij. *M. Vel,*

℞. *Sen.* ʒij. *Rhei* ʒj. *Sal. Tart.* gr. xij. *infund. in Aq. Bullient. q. s. Colat.* ʒiij. *admiſce Syr. Roſar. ſolut.* ʒj. *Aq. è Cort. Citri* ʒij. *F. Hauſt. Vel,*

℞. *Fol. Sen.* ʒij. *Rad. Jalap.* ʒj. *Sem. Coriand.* ƷƷß. *Sal. Tart.* gr. x. *infund. in Aq. bullient. ut prius, & Colat.* ʒiij. *admiſce Syr. Roſar. ſolut.* ʒß. *Aq. Mirab.* ʒij. *F. Hauſtus.*

After

After theſe general *Evacuations* have been made, a *Courſe* is to be entered upon more particularly appropriated to this *Diſeaſe*. This muſt conſiſt of ſuch *Medicines* as are *Stomachick*, *Detergent* and *Deobſtruent*. Of this Kind are *Chalybeates*, Preparations of *Tartar*, *Viperine*, *Saponacious* and *Bitter Aromatick* Medicines. I ſhall ſet down ſuch Compoſitions in their various Forms as have been experienced to prove moſt effectual in this Caſe.

℞. *Conſerv. Flor. Roriſmarin.* ℥j. *Abſynth. Roman.* ℥ß. *Elect. è Bacc. Lauri* ʒij. *Pulv. Elleb. nigr. Pyrethri ana* ʒij. *Sal. Succin. Croc. ana* ℥j. *Gum. Ammon. in q. s. Tinct. Caſtor. Solut.* ʒij. *Syrup. Chalyb. q. s. ut F. Elect. Capiat quantitatem Nuc. Moſch. bis vel ter in die. Vel,*

℞. *Zinzib. cond.* ℥j. *Theriac. Venet.* ʒij. *Curcumæ pulv. Croc. pulv. ana* ʒj. *Ol. Junip. gutt.* xij. *F. Elect. cum q. s. Syrup. è* v. *Rad. aper. Vel,*

℞. *Conſerv. Cochl.* ℥ij. *Enul. Campan. condit.* ℥ß. *Pulv. Ari* ʒij. *Sal. Abſynth. Antihect. Poterii ana* ʒß. *cum Syrup. è Cort. Citri q. s. F. Elect.*

If the Patient be averſe to taking an Electuary, the following Pills may be given in its ſtead.

℞. *Pil. Stom. cum Gum. Pil. Aleophang. Gum. Guaiac. Sal. Mart. ana* ʒj. *Sal. Abſynth. Extrat. Gentian. ana* ℈ij. *Cum Gum. Ammon. in acet. ſcil. F. Pil. N°.* xxx. *Sumat* v. *Singulis noctibus.*

℞. *Crem. Tart. Coccinel. ana* ℈j. *Sapon. Venet.* ʒij. *F. Pil. pro* vi. *Doſ. capiat* j. *bis vel ter in Die. Vel,*

℞. *Sapon. Ven.* ℥ij. *Croc. Sal. Martis, Sal. Succini ana* ℈j. *Ol. Junip. Gutt.* xij. *F. Pil. pro* viij. *Doſ. Vel,*

℞. *Tart. Vitriolat. Croc. ana* ʒij. *Sal. Succini.* ℈j. *Sapon. Caſtil.* ʒij. *Ol. Junip. Gutt.* x. *F. Pil. Mediocres. Doſis ſit* v. *bis vel ter in Die.*

That

That the Practitioner may not be at a loſs to comply with the Palate of every Patient, I ſhall now ſubjoin a few of the liquid Formulæ.

℞. *Milleped.* ℔ß. *infund. in Vin. alb. per dies* iv. *vel* v. *dein exprime fortiter & adde Croc.* ʒij. *Sal. Mart.* ʒj. *Sal. Succini* ʒß, *poſt Dies* iv. *col. pro uſu. Doſ.* ʒij. *ter in die. Vel,*

℞. *Rad. Curcumæ Rub. Tinct. ana* ʒj. *Rad. & Fol. Chelidon. maj. ana M.* ij. *Lumbric. Terreſt. pp. N°.* xxx. *Coq. in Aq. Font. & Vin. alb. ana* ℔iß. *ad* ℔ij. *Colat. adde Tinct. Croci* ʒij. *Syrup. è* v. *Rad. Aper.* ʒiv. *Capiat* ʒiv. *quater in die. Vel,*

℞. *Sem. Sinapios* ʒij. *Croc.* ʒj. *Coccinel.* ʒiß. *Milleped.* ʒiv. *Infund in Vin. alb.* ℔ij. *Colat. ſumat* ʒiij. *ter in die.*

Theſe *Medicines* may be varied at Diſcretion, and interchanged in ſuch a manner as to give the Patient the leaſt Fatigue we can in the taking of them, for they are to be perſiſted in

'till ſuch time as the Symptoms entirely diſappear.

Both the *Venice* and the *Caſtle Soap* are admirable Remedies in this Diſorder, for by reaſon of their deterſive penetrating Quality, they fully anſwer all the Intentions of a *deobſtruent* Medicine, and by their aptneſs to mix and unite with the different Fluids of a human Body, they in a great Meaſure ſupply the Place of the deficient *Bile* which is not improperly called the *Sapo Animalis*.

It is adviſeable, during the Uſe of theſe *Remedies* that the Patient abſtain from all kinds of *Viſcous*, *Glutinous*, *Farinacious* and *heavy Food*; ſuch as *Maiz* and *Pulſe* of all Sorts, unleſs they be thoroughly fermented, his *Diet* ſhould be *penetrating*, *attenuating*, and *inciding*, thin *Broths* made with Veal, Mutton, or Beef, with an addition of *Onions*, *Cellary*, *Endive*, *Chicory*, *Horſe-Raddiſh*, *Pepper*,

Pepper, and ſuch like, which by their active and deterſive Properties, will much aſſiſt, both in cleanſing the firſt Paſſages, and removing any Obſtructions in the Veſſels of the *Liver*. Wild-fowl and ſuch Animals as abound with a ſtrong *Alkali* may contribute to the ſame End; his Drink ſhould be generous Wines, ſuch as *Sherry*, *Mountain* or *Madera*. And if *Aromaticks*, as Worm-Wood, Camomile-Flowers, Centaury the leſs, Gentian-root, Zedory, and ſuch like are ſteep'd in them, they will prove the more efficacious. A Diet of this kind cannot fail of penetrating into the *Lacteal Veſſels*, and will be conveyed into the Blood, along with which it will paſs into the *Meſeraick Veins*, and from thence into the *Liver*, where its Energy will be exerted, in ſcouring the *Hepatick Veſſels*, and diſſolving the Viſcoſities with which they are clog'd.

Exerciſes of the Body, and cheerful *Amuſements* of the Mind are highly neceſſary in this *Diſorder*; for as a ſedentary Courſe of Life and a melancholy Diſpoſition are frequently the Forerunners of it, ſo an accelerated Motion of the Muſcles and agreeable Entertainments of the Faculties are as frequently effectual to remove it.

Having diſmiſſed this Species of a *Jaundice* ariſing from an Obſtruction in the *biliary Canals*, it is neceſſary to take Notice that a real and genuine *Icterus* may be formed from other Cauſes independent on a foregoing *Obſtruction*. Theſe are chiefly three. *Firſt*, any thing which is able to deſtroy the Salts of the *Bile*, by Mediation of which the *oily* and *watry* parts are kept in Union. Or *ſecondly*, ſuch Things as increaſe the *Oily* and *ſulphurous* Parts of that *Juice* in a proportion much ſuperior to the *Aqueous*. Or *Laſtly*, whatever is powerful

ful enough to break the Texture of the *Blood* in ſuch a manner, as to diſengage the *Bilious* Particles from the other component Parts of that Fluid, will effectually produce the *yellow* Tincture upon the Skin, which is a conſtant Concomitant upon this *Diſeaſe* *. The principal of theſe Cauſes are an unactive *ſedentary* way of Living, too plentiful a Uſe of ſtrong *ſpirituous* Liquors, Subſtances of a *deleterious* Nature, and the *Bite* of *venomous* Animals. In the firſt Caſe *Stomachicks*, *bitter Wines*, *Aromaticks*, *Steel* and *Exerciſe* are neceſſary. In the ſecond, temperative *Oleaginous* Medicines in Emulſions, Decoctions, *&c.* are of Service, and in the third Kind, ſuch *Antidotes* as reſiſt and deſtroy the peculiar Properties and Effects of the *Poiſon* by which the *Craſis* of the Blood is broken and diſordered.

* See the learned Doctor *Mead* upon Poiſons.

Theſe Hints may be of Service in the Management of the different *Species* of this *Diſtemper*, and the Limits to which I have confined my ſelf, will not allow me to enlarge ſo far as the Dignity of the Subject might otherwiſe deſerve, I ſhall therefore proceed to the next Chapter.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Of Hypochrondriack and Hysterick Disorders, or Vapours.

THERE are more various and surprising *Phænomena* included under the general Title of Vapours than any other Denomination in Physick, for we can hardly meet with a Distemper incident to any particular part of the Body which the *Hypochondriack* Disorder does not at one time or other imitate and represent. I shall select out of this immense variety of Symptoms such as are of greatest Consequence, and which most usually occur

in

in this Diſeaſe. Whoever is deſirous to be more intimately acquainted with the minute Circumſtances with which it is complicated, may gratifie his Curioſity by having recourſe to thoſe Authors who have wrote expreſſly upon this Subject.

Upon the Approach of a *Fit* the Patients feel an Oppreſſion in the Breaſt, and a difficult Reſpiration, their Eyes grow dim, their Heads ſeem to turn round as in a *Vertigo*, then they cloſe their Eyes and for ſome time remain ſenſeleſs. After this they begin by degrees to recover and come to themſelves, but not without great Sighing and Anxiety. Sometimes the Convulſion is ſo ſtrong during the Fit, that they will foam at the Mouth, and if not prevented by thoſe who are preſent, bear their Breaths with the utmoſt Rage and Violence. The extream Parts are very cold and chilly, an into-

lerable

lerable Pain is felt in ſome part of the Head, which is generally confined to one Point, as if a Nail was forcibly drove into it, from whence Dr. *Syden-ham* calls it the *Clavus Hyſtericus*. This is frequently accompanied with reach-ing and vomiting. There is very often a Senſe of ſomething like a Ball aſcend-ing from the Bottom of the Belly into the Throat, which puts the Patient un-der great Apprehenſion of being ſuffo-cated, and has long been miſtaken by the Women for a riſing of the *Womb*. The Sick in this Condition are affected with the utmoſt Diſturbance and Dejec-tion of Mind; ſometimes violent *Laugh-ter* and profuſe *Weeping* ſucceed each other by turns, without any apparent Provocation to either. Great Pain in the Back, a Senſation of Cold along the Vertebræ, ſtrong Palpitations of the Heart, Spaſms, Epileptick Convulſions, and Swoonings, are frequent Concomi-

tants

tants of the *Hyſterick Paroxyſm.* Diſtentions of the Hypochondria, Grumblings in the Guts, acid or putrid Eructations, Vomitings, nephritick Pains, and ſometimes a Diarrhœa are added to the Train of this *manifold Diſtemper.* The Urine is always clear and limpid during the Fit, and diſcharged in great Quantity. Sometimes the Patient falls into an extravagant Spitting or nocturnal Sweats.

Many of theſe Accidents are obſerved indifferently in either *Sex*, but ſome of them are only compatible with the Nature and Structure of the *Female* Frame, and from theſe ariſeth the only true Diſtinction we can make between *Hyſterick* and *Hypochondriack* Affections.

Few People, either Men or Women, who lead a ſedentary, retired and contemplative Courſe of Life, are perfectly and at all Times free from ſome Degree

of the Vapours, but are at ſome Periods diſturbed and oppreſſed with melancholy *Reveries* and wayward Apprehenſions, or as it is commonly expreſſed, they are Low-ſpirited.

The *antecedent* Cauſes, which diſpoſe for *Hypochondriack* Invaſions, are too immoderate *Exerciſes* of the Body, and too ungovernable *Paſſions* of the Mind, which diſſipate, exhauſt, and greatly affect the Spirits and Nervous Syſtem; large and long continued Evacuations either by Vomit, Stool, or Blood; too great Abſtinence from Victuals; the Burden of being with Child; Menſtrual Obſtructions, *&c.* All theſe are known to be productive of Crudities in the Stomach, a vicious Digeſtion, and a glutinous unconcocted *Chyle.*

It will carry me much beyond my Compaſs ſhould I explain in what manner all the *Symptoms* of this Diſtemper

are

are to be deduced from a Defect in the Organs of Digeſtion and Chylificati-on; but any one who will be at the Pains to conſider attentively what the learned Dr. *Boerhaave* hath ſaid upon the Diſeaſes ariſing ſpontaneouſly from the Changes in our Fluids, will not be at a Loſs to apprehend how theſe ſur-priſing *Alterations* are brought about.

The Method of *Cure* is to be pro-poſed either as it regardeth the preſent *Paroxyſm*, or relates to the original *Hypochondriack Diſpoſition*. When the Phyſician is called to the Aſſiſtance of a Perſon actually labouring under a *Fit* (eſpecially if it be a *Woman* who wanteth his Aid) the moſt immediate means are to be uſed which may re-lieve and quiet the Orgaſm of the Spi-rits, and compoſe the inordinate Tu-mult they are at this time hurried into. To the obtaining this End all thoſe Sub-ſtances conduce which are endowed

with a ſtrong, fætid, diſagreeable and offenſive Scent, ſuch as *Aſſa fætida*, *Galbanum*, *Spirits* of *Hartſhorn*, *Spirit* of *Sal Armoniack*, *Feathers*, *Leather*, and ſuch like burnt and held to the Noſe. Cold Water ſprinkled upon the Face, Snuff, *Euphorbium*, white *Helebore*, and other ſternutatory Powders ſometimes recall the Sick from a Deliquium. Juleps and liquid Mixtures made with diſtilled *Hyſterick* Waters are to be given inwardly, for the Suffocation in the Throat will hardly admit of any other Form of Medicine, during the Continuance of the *Fit*.

℞. *Aq. Ceraſor. nigr. Rutæ & Brion. comp. ana* ℥iij. *Syrup. Atripl. olidæ* ℥j. *Tinctur. Caſtor. Tinct. Aſſæ fætid. ana* ℥j. *M. F. Julap. Vel,*

℞. *Aq. Chamæm. Rutæ, Puleg. ana* ℥iij. *Sp. Sal. Armon.* ℥j. *Sacch. alb. q. s M. Vel,*

℞. *Aq. Ceraſor. nigr.* ℥iv. *Aq. Puleg. & Brion. comp. ana* ℥iij. *Caſtor. in Nodul. ligat.* ʒß. *Sacch. alb. q. s. M.* Three

Three or four Spoonfuls of any of theſe *Juleps* may be given as often as the Faintings require, and if *Camphire* be ſet on fire and ſuffered to conſume it ſelf in any of the forementioned ſimple Waters, it will prove of ſovereign Advantage in this Caſe. If the *Swooning* continue notwithſtanding the Adminiſtration of theſe Remedies, then it will be expedient to make uſe of forcible Ligatures upon the Limbs, Contortions of the Fingers, and *Cupping-Glaſſes*. But it ſometimes happens that the *Hyſterical* Fit is ſo conſiderable that in all reſpects it reſembles a real and legitimate Fit of an *Apoplexy*. In this Circumſtance, Recourſe is to be had to *Cupping* with Scarification, *Bliſters*, and *Emetick Clyſters*. When the *Epileptick* Spaſms and Convulſions are very ſtrong and exorbitant, the tumultuous Spirits are to be appeaſed by adding a ſufficient Quantity of *Liquid Laudanum*

to each Doſe of the abovementioned Juleps at convenient Intervals.

If the Patient be of a Sanguine Temperament and an athletick Habit of Body, the Lancet will be of Service in the Fit, but it ought to be uſed with great Circumſpection when we have to do with Perſons of a weakly debilitated Conſtitution, and who have been long fatigued and oppreſſed with this Diſtemper.

Theſe are the principal Methods which Experience has taught us prove moſt beneficial in removing the Paroxyſms, I ſhall therefore proceed to ſuch Treatment as is moſt likely to prevent their Return, and eradicate the Seeds of theſe Diſorders.

The moſt rational Means to effect this, ſeem to be by ordering ſuch *Medicines* as cleanſe the firſt *Paſſages*, aſſiſt *Digeſtion*, invigorate the *Circulation*, ſtrengthen the Texture of the *Blood*,

and contribute towards the Separation, Diſtribution and Regulation of the *Nervous Fluid.*

The firſt Intention, which is the cleanſing the firſt Paſſages, will beſt be anſwered by adminiſtring an *Emetick*, and repeating it as often as Occaſion requires; for as long as the *Fomes* of the *Diſeaſe* is ſuffered to remain in the *Stomach*, no conſiderable Advantage can be gained from other Medicines. *Vomits* likewiſe help to attenuate the thick unactive *Juices*, and by the frequent Vibrations, and reiterated Contractions which they occaſion in the Muſcles of the *Abdomen*, they render the ſtagnating Humours contained in the *Viſcera* more moveable and apt for Circulation.

℞. *Rad. Ipecacuan. pulv.* gr. xx. *vel* xxx. *Vel,*

℞. *Rad. Ipecac. pulv.* ʒß. *Syr. Violar.* ʒj. *Aq. Lact.* ʒij. *F. Hauſt. Vel,*

℞. *Oxymel.*

℞. *Oxymel. Scill.* ℥ij. *Ol. Amygd.* ℥ß. *Aq. Lact.* ℥j. *M.*

But ſeeing that ſome People, eſpecially thoſe of the *Female Sex*, in theſe Diſorders are ſo unhappy, either from their natural Conſtitutions, or have been ſo much weakned by the Continuance of the Diſtemper, that they are unable to undergo the ſevere Shocks of a formal *Vomit*, without great Inconveniency or even imminent Hazard, in this Caſe we muſt be content with emptying the Stomach by giving Draughts of *Carduus Whey*, or a ſtrong Decoction of *Green-Tea*.

If the Patient be vigorous, ſtrong and plethorick, or if the *Vapours* take their riſe from an Interruption of any natural and uſual Secretion of *Blood*, as in a Stoppage of the *Menſes*, *Lochia*, &c. then it will be very expedient to take away eight, ten, or twelve

Ounces of Blood, antecedent to the Adminiſtration of an *Emetick*, leſt ſome of the fine tender Veſſels ſhould happen to burſt in the Operation, as well as to give Relief to ſome of the *Symptoms*, which in theſe *Diſorders* plainly indicate it.

The Day after an *Emetick* hath been given, we may ſafely venture upon *Cathartick*s, in order to disburden the *Bowels* of the *Slime* and tough *Mucus* which the indigeſted *Chyle* had depoſited upon them. But ſince very few *Hypochondriack* Perſons can bear the Severity of the rougher *Purgatives* without ſome Inconveniencies which are apt to alarm them with terrible Apprehenſions, to which this ſort of People are moſt of all other ſubject, it will be proper to make trial of ſuch as are more mild in their Operation..

℞. *Syrup. Rhei* ℥ij. *Syr. Roſar. ſolut.* ʒß. *Aq. Lact.* ʒiij. *M. F. Hauſt. Vel,*

℞. *Syr.*

℞. *Syr. Roſar. ſolut. Elix. Salutis ana* ℥j. *Aq. Cinnam. Hord.* ℥iij. *M.*

If the Patient rather approves of Pills, then

℞. *Pil. Coch. maj.* gr. xv. *Caſtor.* g. ij. *cum s. q. Elix. prop. F. Pil. N°.* v.

Rhubarb in Powder, or *Pulv. Cornachin.* are convenient Purgatives in this Caſe, but nothing is more efficacious than the *Pil. Cochiæ cum Elleb.* when the Conſtitution can eaſily diſpenſe with them.

The *Stomach* and *Bowels* being ſufficiently cleanſed by theſe Evacuations, are now diſpoſed to receive and tranſmit into the Maſs of Blood the good Effects which may reſult from ſuch Remedies as may anſwer the chief Demands of this *Diſeaſe*. Theſe are ſuch as deſtroy the *Lentor* in the Juices, invigorate the *Blood* by encreaſing the Inteſtine and progreſſive Motion of its Par-

ticles, force their way thro' and ſcour the obſtructed *Glands*, render the *Secretions* free and natural, and laſtly bridle and reſtrain the inordinate Sallies of the *Animal Spirits*. Of this kind are *Stomachick*, *Chalybeate*, *Antimonial*, *Volatile*, and thoſe which are more peculiarly termed *Anti-Hyſterick* Medicines. When this alterative Courſe is once entered upon, it ought to be perſiſted in till ſuch time as the *Complaints* of the Patient ceaſe, and we have good reaſon to believe that the ill State of the *Fluids* is thorowly changed and amended.

That the Practitioners in the *Weſt-Indies* may not be at a loſs for Inſtruments in theſe *Intentions*, I ſhall ſubjoin the moſt effectual and approved Forms of *Preſcription*, which I have either met with from others, or experienced in my own *Practice*.

℞. *Limatur.*

℞. *Limatur. Chalyb. Extract. Absynth. ana* ʒß. *Castor.* ʒj. *Balsam. Peruv. q. s. ut F. Mass. Pil. Capiat* ∋j. *bis in die. Vel,*

℞. *Sal. Mart.* ʒij. *Croc.* ∋ij. *Galban. colat. q. s. ut F. Mass. Pil. Sumat ut prius. Vel,*

℞. *Castor. Gum. Ammon. ana* ʒß. *Sal. Tart.* ∋j. *Chalyb.* ʒj. *Sal. Vol. Succini* gr. x. *Tinct. Castor. q. s. ut F. Pil. in eosdem Usus.*

℞. *Conserv. Absynth. Roman.* ʒiij. *Sal. Chalyb.* ʒij. *Croc.* ʒß. *Syr. Chalyb. q. s. ut F. Electuar. Vel,*

℞. *Conserv. Cochlear. Absinth. Rom. ana* ʒj. *Spec. Diambræ Cort. Winteran. pulv. ana* ʒj. *Salis Succini* ʒß. *Chalyb. cum Sulph, præparat.* ʒiij. *Syrup. è Cort. Citri q. s. ut F. Electuar.*

The Patient is to take the Quantity of a *Nutmeg* twice a Day, and drink after each *Dose* a few Spoonfuls of *Wormwood Wine*, or of the following Infusion.

℞. *Rad. Serpent. Virgin.* ʒj. *Cort. Peruv.* ʒj. *Tart. alb.* ʒij. *Infund. in Vin. Maderenſ.* ℔ij. *coletur uſûs tempore.*

Moderate *Exerciſe* during the Courſe of *Chalybeate Medicines* is of ſingular Benefit, and very much promotes the good Conſequences we expect from them. But if the Sick be obſtinately reſolved againſt all *Forms* except thoſe which are liquid and given in *Draughts*, this which follows will in a great meaſure perform all that is to be hoped for from the Uſe of *Steel.*

℞. *Aq. Lact. Alex.* ℔ij. *Abſynth. comp. Gentian. comp. ana* ʒvj. *Limatur. Mart.* ʒiij. *infund. frigide per dies* vj. *dein adde ſummit. Centaur. min. Flor. Chamæm. ana p.* j. *Cort. Aurant.* ʒj. *Rad. Gent. Sem. Card. ben. ana* ʒij. *Stent ſimul per quatuor dies, & poſtea decantetur Liquor.*

In the Adminiſtration of *Chalybeate Medicines*, great regard muſt be had to the

the Conſtitution and Circumſtances of the *Patient*, for they are by no means to be allowed to Women after *Conception*, to ſuch who are ſubject to have their *Menſes* flow too liberally, or to thoſe who have a *thin*, *hot* and *rarified* State of Blood. Under theſe Conditions we muſt forbear *Steel* and its *Preparations*, and repoſe our Confidence in thoſe Medicaments which are appropriated to the Amendment of theſe *Diſorders*, without putting the Blood into too violent Agitations; in this Caſe the following deſerve our Notice.

℞. *Galban. Myrrh. Aſſæ fœtid. ana* ʒj. *Caſtor. Camph. Sal. Succin. ana* ℈ß. *Ol. Succini gutt.* vj. *Tinct. Caſtor. q. s. ut F. Maſſ. Pil. Doſ.* ℈j. *bis in die. Vel,*

℞. *Caſtor.* ʒj. *Sal. Succin. vol.* ʒß. *cum s. q. Extract. Rutæ. F. Pil. Vel,*

℞. *Cort. Peruv. pulv.* ℥ß. *Corall. rub. Ocul. Cancr. pp. ana* ʒiij. *Sal. Abſynth.* ℈ij. *cum q. s. Syr. Abſynth. F. Electuar. Vel,*

℞. *Conſerv.*

℞. *Conserv. Rutæ, Absynth. Roman. ana* ʒj. *Gum. Ammon. in q. s. Tinct. Cast. solut.* ʒj. *Troch. Myrrh. pulv.* ʒij. *Croci* ʒß. *cum s. q. Syr. è Cortic. Citri F. Electuar. Vel,*

℞. *Conserv. Absynth. Roman.* ʒj. *Elect. è Bacc. Lauri* ʒß. *Helleb. nigr. pulv.* ʒj. *Sal. Tart.* ʒiß. *Assæ Fœtid. in Tinct. Castor. solut.* ℈j. *cum Syr. è Cort. Citri q. s. F. Elect. Dosis sit Quant. Nuc. Mosch. bis in Die.*

While the Patient continueth in the Use of these *Medicines*, walking in open *Air*, riding in a *Coach*, or rather on *Horseback* if the Strength will allow of it, chearful *Company* and *Diversions* suited to the Taste and Genius of the Sick, are freely to be indulged and encouraged. To these we may add *Bathing* in cold Water as a powerful Assistant, when no other Indisposition forbids the Practice of it.

All deep *Contemplations*, anxious *Thoughts* and inordinate *Passions* are absolutely to be avoided. The

The *Diet* ſhould be nouriſhing and of eaſy Digeſtion, plain and ſimple, not ſalted, ſpiced or pickled. The *Drink* ſhould be *Madera Wine*, ſometimes diluted with Water, and ſometimes pure and unmixed.

To prevent a return of the *Vapours* it will be convenient to give one Scruple of the *Peruvian Bark* in Powder, or a Bolus Morning and Evening for ſome time after the Diſuſe of other Remedies, in order to eſtabliſh the *Craſis* of the Blood.

Galbanum or other *Hyſterick Emplaſters*, *Nodules* with *Aſſa Fœtida*, *Caſtor*, and ſuch like, may not only aſſiſt in amuſing *Hypochondriack* People, (who of all People ſtand moſt in Need of Amuſements,) but alſo in ſome *Caſes* they may have a good effect upon the *Spirits* themſelves by abating the Tumult and Diſorder they are in, and removing the Accidents conſequent thereon; for

which

which reaſon I think the Uſe of them ought not to be diſcarded from Practice.

It may perhaps be thought by ſome, that I have not ſufficiently recommended the giving of *Opiates* in theſe *Hypochondriack* and *Hyſterick* Affections. I am ſo far from diſproving of the Uſe of them in ſeveral Circumſtances of the *Paroxyſm*, or when the Patient labours under violent *Vomitings*, or continues to be exceeding *reſtleſs* and uneaſy in the Night, that I eſteem them of the higheſt Importance on theſe Occaſions, as they procure Intervals of *Eaſe*, and ſolicit the unruly Spirits to a State of Compoſure; but on the other hand I do not comprehend how they can much aſſiſt towards the grand Intention of *Cure*, otherwiſe than accidentally, when the *Method* aſſigned for it has been entered upon.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Sudamina and Ring-Worms.

HAVING in the foregoing Chapters deſcribed the Symptoms and propoſed the Management of ſuch internal Diſeaſes as are moſt frequently met with in the *Weſt-Indies*, I ſhall employ the remaining Part of this Book upon ſome *Cutaneous*, or at leaſt *External* Maladies, which are very often obſerved in theſe *Climates*.

It is very uſual for People upon their firſt Arrival to be moleſted with a troubleſome uneaſy *Itching* all over the Surface of the Body, which breaks out in little, reddiſh, bladdery *Puſtules*, principally upon the Breaſt, reſembling thoſe Eruptions which we find in Authors un-

der the Title of *Papulæ* and *Sudamina*. This *Pruritus* exaſperates the Patient to ſo great a Degree, that human Reſolution is not able to reſtrain him from Scratching, upon which a ſharp, bilious, ſalt *Humour* ouzes out of ſo corroſive a Nature that it often frets and exulcerates the outward Skin, leaving the Breaſt exceeding ſore and raw.

Altho' this *Diſeaſe* be greatly vexatious, yet the *Cure* of it is not to be raſhly attempted by aſtringent or repelling *Applications*, for upon the drying up of this Humour, ſeveral Perſons have been ſeized with a *Fever*, *Dropſy*, or a dangerous *Dyſentery*, who otherwiſe enjoyed a perfect State of Health (excluſive of this Diſorder) for a long time before.

When theſe *Papulæ* become too inſufferable to be ſupported, the ſafeſt Method of Relief to be entered upon is by giving temperate, cooling *Purges*

with

with *Manna*, *Crem. Tart.* and ſuch like; but if they happen in a hot *Bilious* Conſtitution, *Blood-letting* ought to be the firſt thing attempted.

After *Evacuations* have been ſufficiently made it may be ſafe to uſe *Fomentations* with Water, Sulphur, Nitre and the larger *Cold-Seeds*, and the Patient muſt all this while be confined to a temperate way of Living and a ſtrict *Regimen*.

When the *Bilious* Matter which ought to be diſcharged by theſe *Eruptions* is detained in the ſudoriferous Glands by means of *Cold*, the thinner and more ſubtile part of the Cutaneous Secretion paſſes off by inſenſible *Perſpiration*, and the *Salts* being deprived of their Vehicle become too groſs to eſcape thro' the Pores of the Skin, and are therefore lodged in the Glands, where they acquire a corroſive Pungency. For this reaſon the *Diſeaſe* is improved into one

more obſtinately cutaneous, which puts on the Appearance of an *Impetigo*, commonly called in theſe Parts *Ring-Worms*, and often perſiſts a long time with the Violence of a *Herpes exedens*.

Theſe *Ring-Worms* appear in diverſe Parts of the Body in ſmall, dark, brown *Cluſters* of *Puſtules* about the Circumference of a Sixpence, which frequently ſpread themſelves to a much larger Dimenſion afterwards. Theſe *Serpiginous Eruptions* are attended with a moſt intolerable *Itching*, mixed with great Heat and Smart, and when rubbed they ſend out a ſmall quantity of *Ichorous* Exudation, but never come to any *Digeſtion*. Sometimes they forſake the Places where they firſt diſcovered themſelves, and diſappearing there, become manifeſt in other parts of the Body, and theſe Tranſitions are obſerved to correſpond with certain *Aſpects* of the *Moon*. They ſometimes proceed to ſo great

great a degree of Inveteracy, that they will be able to keep their ground for many Years, in Oppoſition to the moſt powerful *Remedies*.

In *Bilious* and inflamed Conſtitutions *Blood-letting* is abſolutely neceſſary; after which ſuch Purges as are uſually called *Cholagogues* (which ſee in the Chapter upon the *Jaundice*) are to be repeated two or three times, and if they prove ineffectual, it will be expedient to join *Mercurius dulcis* or *Calomel* to their Aſſiſtance. When the general Evacuations have been ſufficiently made, *Æthiops mineral* continued for ſome time will be found of great Benefit, eſpecially if a *Decoction* of the *Woods* in an equal part of Common Water and *Aq. Calcis* be taken during the Uſe of it.

The moſt efficacious *Topicks*, which (as has been already remarked) ſhould always be applied with Caution, are theſe which follow.

℞. *Ol. Tart.* ʒj. *Sapon. com.* ʒij. *Ol. Lign. Rhod. gut.* viij. *M. F. Linamentum. Vel,*

℞. *Aq. Roſ.* ʒiij. *Calcis* ʒij. *Alumin.* ʒj. *Succ. recent. Nicotian.* ʒj. *M. pro Lotione. Vel,*

℞. *Ung. Oxylap.* ʒß. *Camph.* ʒj. *Sulph. Litharg. ana* ʒß. *Merc. dulc. Ærug. Æris ana* ℈j. *Ol. Myrtil. q. s. M.*

The Root of *Caſſada* pounded and made into a *Cataplaſm* is eſteemed as a *Specifick* among the *Topicks* in theſe Caſes, and it is, without doubt, a very powerful Application when uſed with *Judgment*.

I forbear to allow a place here to the more violent *Mercurial Preparations*, becauſe a *Miſtake* in the Circumſtances of the Diſeaſe, or an injudicious Boldneſs in this Kind of *Practice* may prove of dangerous, not to ſay *fatal* Conſequence.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

Of the Guinea Worm.

THIS *Diſtemper* takes its Name from that Diviſion of *Africa* which is called *Guinea*, becauſe the *Natives* of that Country are very much ſubject to be infeſted with this Sort of *Worm*, tho' it is not ſo frequent any where as on the *Gold-Coaſt* about *Annamboe* and *Cormantyn*.

There are many other Parts of the World where the ſame Kind of *Worm* is to be met with. *Engelbertus Kempfer* found them about *Gomron* in *Perſia*, whence he calls this *Worm Dracunculus Perſarum*, and for the ſame reaſon *Avicenna*

vicenna calls it *Nervus Medinenſis, vel Vena Medeni*, becauſe it is found near *Medina*. For farther Information the Curious may conſult the learned Sir *Hans Sloan*'s *Natural Hiſtory* of *Jamaica* Vol. I. Pag. 126. and Vol. II. Pag. 190. 352. where they may be ſatisfied in every thing which has been ſaid on this Subject.

This *Worm* is white, round, long, and uniform, very much reſembling white round Tape or Bobbin; nor have I ever ſeen any of them broad and flat as they are deſcribed by ſome Authors. It is lodged between the Interſtices and Membranes of the *Muſcles*, where it inſinuates it ſelf to a prodigious length, ſometimes exceeding five Ells. It occaſions no great Pain in the beginning, but at ſuch time as it is ready to make its Exit, the Part adjoyning to the Extremity of the *Worm*, where it attempts its Excluſion, begins to ſwell, throb, and be inflamed.

This generally happens about the *Ancle*, *Leg*, or *Thigh*, and rarely higher.

The *Countries* where this *Diſtemper* is obſerved, are very hot and ſultry, liable to great Droughts; and the Inhabitants make uſe of ſtagnating corrupted Water, in which it is very probable that the *Ova* of theſe *Animalculæ* may be contained; for the white People who drink this *Water* are obnoxious to the *Diſeaſe* as well as the *Negroes*.

The Surgeons ſeldom attempt to extract this *Worm* by making an Inciſion, but as ſoon as they perceive the *Tumour* riſe to a competent bulk, they endeavour to bring it to *Suppuration* with all convenient Expedition, and then the Head of the *Worm* diſcovers it ſelf, which they ſecure by tying it to a bit of Stick or Cotton that it may not contract and draw itſelf up again. Thus they continue to roll it round the Stick daily, ſometimes one Inch, ſometimes

two or more each Day, taking great Care not to break the *Worm*, which if they chance to do it will be very difficult to recover the End of it again, and an *Abſceſs* will be formed not only at the ſuppurated Part, but alſo through the whole winding of the *Muſcles* where the dead putrifying *Worm* remains : So that from an Accident of this kind you ſhall have *Apoſtumations* produced in ſeveral Places in the Limbs, which generally occaſion very obſtinate *Ulcers*, and give the Surgeon great Perplexity in the Cure of them.

I muſt likewiſe take Notice that during the Extraction of the *Worm*, the Patient ſhould be plyed with bitter *Aloetick* and other *Anthelmintick* Medicines, in order to diſlodge the *Worm* the ſooner from his Tenement; and it is obſerved that theſe *Vermin* protrude themſelves much faſter when theſe Remedies are given.

When

When the *Worm* is totally extracted the remaining *Ulcer* through which it paſſed, may be treated in the ſame manner as other common *Ulcers*, nor does any farther Inconveniency remain in the Parts of which it had Poſſeſſion.

This *Diſeaſe*, ſimply conſidered, very rarely, if ever, proves mortal. I have my ſelf a young, and otherwiſe hale *Negroe Wench* who had nine of theſe *Guinea Worms* extracted from her, without any bad Conſequence enſuing.

CHAP. X.

Of the Elephantiasis.

I SHALL put an End to this *Treatise* by giving the Description of two *Diseases* to which the *Blacks* are no Strangers, but as far as I can be informed they are utterly unknown in *Europe*: I mean the *Elephantiasis* under the Circumstances it occurs in the *West-Indies*, and a Distemper called there, the *Joint-Evil*. And first of the *Elephantiasis*.

This *Disease*, which is no rare thing to be met with among the *Negroes*, bears a great Affinity to the best Accounts we have of the *Lepra* of the *Arabians*.

Those

Thoſe *Blacks* are the more ſubject to it who after ſevere acute *Fevers*, long continued *Intermittents*, or other tedious *Illneſſes*, are either much expoſed to the Inclemency of Rainy Seaſons, and the cold penetrating Dew of the Evenings, or are conſtrained to ſubſiſt upon bad Diet and undigeſtible unwholeſome Food.

In the beginning the Perſon is weak, cachectical and emaciated 'till the Glut of viciated *Humours* ſubſide into the *Legs* and *Feet*, which are the *Seat* of this Diſtemper, and at this time begin to appear *Oedematous*, and puffed up with watry Tumours as in an *Anaſarca*, but the Swelling does not retain the Mark of any Preſſure in the ſame degree, or ſo long, as in that Diſtemper.

By Degrees the *Leg* becomes more and more tumefied, and the Veins are much diſtended with *Varicoſe* Swellings, which are very apparent from the Knee

down

down to the Extremities of the Toes. Then the Skin begins to grow rugged and unequal, its vaſcular and glandulous *Compages* is enlarged, and a *ſcaly* Subſtance, with a Sort of Chops and Fiſſures in the Interſtices, appear upon its Surface. Theſe ſeeming *Scales* do not dry up and fall off, but are daily protruded forward, and ſtretched in their Dimenſions till the Leg is enlarged to an enormous Bulk, ſo that in Size, Shape, and all other external Appearance it minutely repreſents the *Leg* of an *Elephant*, from whence the Diſeaſe receives its Denomination.

But notwithſtanding that this ſcaly Coat appears to be harſh, callous and inſenſible, yet if it be touched ever ſo ſuperficially with a Lancet the *Blood* will freely ouze out, and if the *Epidermis* which affords this monſtrous Appearance be pared off to the thickneſs of the Scarf-skin in thoſe Parts, an Infinity

of

of Orifices of the Blood-Veſſels will preſent themſelves to the Eye, when aſſiſted with a Microſcope.

Tho' the *Limb* continues to proceed to this inordinate Magnitude, yet the Appetite of the *Negroe* remains good, his Digeſtion ſtrong, and his Secretions regular, nor is he ſenſible of any other Inconveniency than the Burthen of carrying ſuch a *Load* of *Leg* along with him.

In this Condition ſeveral have been known to live twenty Years, and even to a longer Period, and have performed chearfully all the Duties of their Servitude, which were conſiſtent with ſuch diſproportionate *Limbs*.

This Addition of Bulk is generally confined to one *Leg* at a time, but there have been ſeveral Inſtances where it has invaded both together.

Amputation of the Diſeaſed *Leg* has been performed many times, but has

always

always failed of a Cure, for the Diſtemper conſtantly takes Poſſeſſion of the remaining *Leg*.

Sometimes *white People*, whoſe unhappy Circumſtances have reduced them to Hardſhips but little inferior to what the *Blacks* are obliged to undergo, have given us Proof that this *Diſeaſe* is not limited to one Colour, any more than to the Bounds in which *Lucretius* has confined it.

Eſt Elephas Morbus, qui propter Flumina Nili
Gignitur Ægypto, in Media, neq; præterea uſquam.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

Of the Joint-Evil.

MANY of the *Negroes* in the *Leeward Iſlands*, as well *Natives* as thoſe imported from *Guinea*, are ſubject to a Cutaneous Diſtemper, which in thoſe Parts is known by the Name of the *Joint-Evil.* This Malady is equally remarkable in its Appearances as it is fatal in its Conſequences, being of ſo virulent a Nature that it eludes the force of the moſt powerful *Remedies* hitherto diſcovered.

The *Deſcription* of it is as follows. It firſt appears in ſuperficial Spots of a brown copper Colour diſperſed over ſeveral parts of the *Face*, but eſpecially

on

on the *Noſe*, without any Unevenneſs, or ſenſe of Pain in the beginning. Theſe *Spots* ſpread by ſlow degrees 'till a great part of the Body is covered with them. Then the Nails curl inwards, and the Extremities of the Fingers and Toes begin to ulcerate. Theſe *Ulcers*, which never digeſt, but generally look dry without much Foulneſs or Fætor, gradually creep from Joint to Joint, till they have eroded all the *Fingers* and *Toes*. The next Attack this unconquerable Enemy makes, is upon the *Trunk* of the Body where it ſpreads in *Patches*, and at this time the Diſtemper becomes *infectious*. Theſe Defedations of the Skin never penetrate very deep into the Muſcular Fleſh, but extend themſelves in Circumference, and diſcharge a thin *Ichor* which inſenſibly dries up and emaciates the Patient, ſometimes in a few Years, tho' there have been ſome *Negroes* under theſe Circumſtances, who have

have protracted a miſerable loathſome Life for the ſpace of ten, twelve Years, or longer.

Among the numerous Attempts which I have known made to reſiſt this ſtubborn *Diſeaſe*, *Antimonial* Preparations afford the greateſt Relief, but I have never heard that they perfected a Cure; on the other Hand, all Preparations of *Mercury* aggravate the *Diſtemper*, exaſperate the *Ulcers*, and make them ſpread the faſter. This is conſtantly true in whatever Form, or with whatever Intention *Mercury* be given, whether as alterative, purgative, or to raiſe a Salivation, either internally exhibited, or externally applied.

The *Negroes* who are great Pretenders to the Knowledge of *Specifick* Virtues in Simples, apply ſeveral Kinds of *Plants* on theſe Occaſions, but I could never obſerve the leaſt beneficial Effect produced by them.

This being a *Diſeaſe* not taken Notice of (as far as I know by any *Author*) I hope I ſhall be excuſed for giving the *Deſcription* of it, though I am forced to leave it to future Induſtry and greater Sagacity than my own, to inveſtigate the *Cure*.

FINIS.

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